



Deuteronomy 30:15-20 New Revised Standard Version

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Notes: _____



“Life is a matter of choices, and every choice you make makes you.” –John C. Maxwell

Options are great! That is, until you find it difficult to make a decision. As a child, I would find myself torn between several good possibilities along the toy aisles of Nichols Discount City. In such moments, I learned upon the age-old “scientific” methodology of “eeny, meeny, miny, moe” in order to narrow down my choice. Now, as a parent, I hear from time to time those same words as our daughter tries to make her decision about something she wants. As we grow older, we may revert to this method from time to time, but most decisions take a lot more time, research, prayer, and conversation to come to a result. Over the years, the nature of our decisions becomes much more significant and the choices we make can have a major impact upon us for good or ill. The Israelites were on the cusp of their entrance into the Promised Land. Moses’ journey was drawing to a conclusion and Joshua was preparing to take the helm. Having been through so much with God and having much at stake looking toward their future, the Israelites were presented with two options which could lead either to life or death. To this, they needed to choose wisely. The same can be said for us!

1. **The offering of choices is an expression of the divine love for humanity.**
2. **The options God places before us lead to a significant outcome for us.**
3. **At the heart of each choice is the question as to what we will do with God.**

Prayer Pebble: Lord, the choices you place before me truly are matters of life and death. The way of life is far from easy, but the outcome is priceless. Help me to consciously choose life over death each and every day. Amen.