

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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The Neo-Evangelical Challenge to the People to “Make a Decision for Christ, Choose Jesus” and be ye saved.

May be shared with loved ones and friends of the Missionary/New School persuasion.

Would someone be so kind to share a scripture verse that includes the verbiage, “decide for Christ,” and/or “choose Jesus” to be able to have sins forgiven and eternal life?

In my study of the Bible, I have found the following: “I speak not of you all: I know whom I have CHOSEN; but that the scriptures may be fulfilled, he that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me” (regarding Judas) (Jn. 13:18).

“Ye have not CHOSEN me, but I have CHOSEN YOU, and ordained you that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: and whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you” (Jn. 15:16).

“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love, having predestinated unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.” (Eph. 1:4-5).

“But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning CHOSEN you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the Truth” (II Thess. 2:13).

You notice when our Lord Jesus called his disciples He said, “Come, follow me and I shall make you fishers of men.” They left their nets (as fishermen) and went and followed Christ.

NO OFFER was given, but a divine call that CAUSED them to obey his voice.

We find the scriptures setting forth the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ throughout the New Testament article but NEVER a persuasive INVITATION for anyone to endorse or believe the message? Rather, the declaration of the Gospel in its Christ-centered message shall reveal those that have been blessed to BELIEVE IT and or those that are being drawn by the cords of divine mercy to an awakening of the spirit by the SPIRIT of the living God as a drawing work of sovereign grace.

NOWHERE can you find our Lord Jesus Christ giving men the option to believe or not to believe. NOWHERE is our Lord requested a DECISION to be made by man to become a believer in His salvation provision. If you follow the neo-evangelical plea for sinners to make a decision by the INVITATION of the preacher, you will find that the revivalist preacher "Finney" in about the mid 1800's was the father of the "mourner's bench" and come to the altar INVATION to "pray through" till one is at peace with God.

All of the New Testament experiences in the Acts of the apostles of the preaching of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ manifested those that were "Blessed to believe" its glorious message. "AS many as were ORDAINED to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48)...They were not called to a decision, nor invited to chose, they believed by the operation of divine grace alone. The initiator of one's ability to believe is our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Author and Finisher of our faith. Faith is a fruit of His SPIRIT which evidences spiritual life within the heart mind and soul of the chosen heir of grace.

So many that I have know over the years in the nominal Baptist Church, hold tightly to their "Decisional choosing of Christ" as the key to their experience. They proclaim "I found the Lord" when I made my decision on such a such date....Oh that they may have been chosen of Christ in their experience....and are mislead by the perversion of the FULL Gospel of a sovereign God that come to SEEK and to SAVE them which are lost. If many of you brethren will reflect back on your experiences while in the Missionary Baptist, New School influence, how many of you would be honest enough to admit that "SEED" was planted regarding the cross and the Saviour that provided redemption through His blood as the sacrificial Lamb of God? Then in time, the "WATERING" of the word by divine appointment, you were enlightened to the sovereignty of God at which time SOVEREIGNTY and GRACE became married together in your minds understanding. And SALVATION WAS MANIFEST AS OF THE LORD! Totally....your decision nor choice was an the instruments in your

New Birth, For Conception, gestation, and New Birth are ALL a work of the Almighty God of the Holy Scriptures that had determined the time of your being translated into the Kingdom of God's dear Son, Jesus The Christ, God with us, the fullness of the Godhead bodily. The very image of the invisible God.

Brethren, I have walked along the Southern Baptist trail, a season with the Independent Baptists, and meandered with the sovereign grace Reformed Baptist over the years to arrive at my present destination as a Historical Predestinarian Old School Baptist. I look back down the 35 years of journey as did John Bunyan in his allegory

of "Pilgrim's Progress" and see that the totality of the journey was ordained by divine decree of the Almighty that orders our steps. I am persuaded that some have sown, others have watered along the way, but God alone has added the increase.

May we that have been brought along the pilgrim way and shown the Old Paths, be careful to not forget where we have been, and seek grace to proclaim the truth as we have been revealed it to those God has prepared to hear it....May we be found proclaiming the true and full Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ savoured with God's Almighty Character and absolute sovereignty.....That sheep shall be feed and lambs nourished with the sincere milk of the Word.

Lord have mercy upon us, and cause the people of Zion to draw nigh unto thee..

DEM

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