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How many options do you make each day? What time to get up /what to wear / breakfast? / way to drive to work /use your time, etc.) The 100s? 1000?. Every day? It was easier back in the 1920s - Henry Ford's famous quote - any customer can have a car painted of any color that he wants as long as he's black. Now, we expect to have many options - skim milk, 1%, 2%, whole/white, chocolate, even strawberries! Our little kids know this - mom asks: For your snack would you like an apple or a banana? The child says: Can I please eat cookies? Some options are a matter of life or death (such as a strip of relief on paper cut or call 911 for signs of a heart attack!) the word of God to us comes from some of the last words that God gave To Moses to write shortly before his death, recorded for us in Second Law 30. On this day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life so that you and your children can live... Second-law 30:19-20 is a pretty simple choice, isn't it? Of course, if given the opportunity of life and blessings or death and curses, we naturally and enthusiastically choose life! But the team: Choosing life is more than a decision to keep breathing. God's commandment to choose life is defined in Deuteronomy 30:16: For I have to tell you today to love the Lord of Your God, to walk God's ways, and to keep God's commandments. First, the choice of life includes the love of God. Not a class of Valentina's school kind of love; nor a fascination or selfish kind of love that says: I love you because you make me feel so good! Rather, it is God's marriage of the kind of love - exclusive, sincere love, Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the Lord of your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your strength. Second, the choice of life means going down God's path - at the very beginning of time Adam and Eve had a choice to obey God or do what they wanted. Obeying God meant life and perfection/ choosing your own path meant rebellion, death and curse; and we know what happened -- they made it their way! With one man, sin entered the world and death through sin, and so death passed to all people, because all sinned. Romans 5:12 By nature, by themselves - we want this our way! Third, choice of life means keeping God's commandments; but we do loopholes/excuses as we rebelly do it our way! In the gospel of reading, as part of Jesus' sermon on the mountain (Matthew 5:21-37), Jesus explains what it means to choose life. Jesus says: You have heard what has been said ... but I tell you four times in our few verses! The scribes and Pharisees were made up by God's Law - actually changed it! It turned out that they obeyed the Law of God. But Jesus teaches very boldly and clearly that murder includes anger and contempt; includes the like and the fact that happens to our mind, our eyes and hearts; Divorce should be extremely rare; and oaths and oaths should not be for those who are trustworthy. Let your yes be yes, and your no, no; nothing but what comes from evil. Matthew 5:25-37 And Jesus emphasizes the inability to choose life on his own with one of the harsh statements of Scripture - If your right eye makes you sin, poke it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand makes you sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to get to hell. (Matthew 5:29-30) Jesus doesn't tell us to maim ourselves, but he says: STOP MAKING EXCUSES/STOP choosing the path of death / STOP DOING IT YOUR WAY! It is not only your eyes or hands that make you sin, but your heart! So to choose life we have to change our heart! And this change can only happen through faith in Jesus, who kindly teaches us: I am the Path, the Truth and life, no one comes to the Father (no one chooses life) except through Me. (John 14:6) and again Jesus clearly teaches us, You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and appointed you to go and bear fruit... John 15:16 Brings fruits / The choice of life / Life in God's commandments is The gracious work of God in us, daily turning us away from the sinful self and in true repentance returns to Jesus. This weekend we are celebrating another baptism. The word of God tells us, When God's kindness and love appeared, our Savior saved us not because of the righteous things we did, but because of His grace. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, which He generously poured on us through Jesus Christ of our Savior, so that, being justified by His grace, we could become heirs with hope for eternal life. Titus 3:4-7 Through the daily blessings of the Holy Epiphany - through the daily blessings of God's merciful Word and Mystery - we can and do choose life/live in the blessings of eternal life with Jesus, now and forever. Together with the Apostle Paul, we rejoice: I am crucified with Christ and no longer live, but Christ lives in me. I live in my body, I live with faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. The Galatians 2:20 The World of God that passes all our understanding keeps our hearts and minds concentrated in Christ Jesus until life is eternal. Amen. Pastor Myers: I call on heaven and earth to testify against you today that I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. So choose life so that you can live, you and your descendants, Deuteronomy 30:19 (NASB) In the Old Testament, men and women were saved by grace through faith in the Word of God. People in the Old Testament who believed God's vow in connection with the coming Messiah, have been saved by grace through faith. They believed that God's Word would one day be fulfilled - and Israel was a people chosen by God to be His chosen through whom God's anointed Savior of the world will be born. Shortly after the children of Israel were freed from slavery in Egypt, God made this special covenant with His people. They had to love the Lord with their God with all their hearts and serve only Him. They had to keep the commandments that were cut in stone, and given to them through Moses -- and they had to tell the lost in the world of God's goodness. In this covenant there were conditions between God and His people Israel, and if they keep the terms of the covenant, God has promised to bless them above all nations. But if they have not fulfilled the terms of His covenant. God warned them that they would receive a curse. The covenant that God made with Israel was CONDITIONAL. It relied on the loyalty of Israel in accordance with the terms of God's covenant, and people quickly agreed to all god's terms and proclaimed'-ALL what the Lord say we will do. Yet for a very short period of time, the special covenant made by God with His chosen people was broken, and for forty years they wandered aimlessly through the desert. But as the time of his departure approached, Moses again ratified the terms of God's covenant with these words; I call upon heaven and earth to bear witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. So choose life so that you can live. The same choice between life and death (blessing and curse) extends to all men, and although the specific terms of the Law of Moses apply only to Israel, we are all born: dead in sin and sin, and we are all placed under the curse of the Law, because we have all sinned and have not lived up to the glory of God - for there is nothing good. No one. It was only by grace that God chose Israel as his chosen people, and only by grace does the choice between life and death still apply to all people, because Christ accepted the punishment required by law, on our behalf. Christ has become a curse for us, so that we could receive God's blessings -- and it's all by grace through faith in Him. The choice of life and death is still on offer today, and all who will turn to Christ and trust him as a Savior choose life, and the eternal, heavenly, glorious, UNSY blessings that follow those who believe in Him by grace through faith, are beyond our human comprehension. The choice between life and death is still on offer today - but the one that rejects the free gift of salvation chooses DEATH, through their own will, and brings upon themselves the curse of the law, as well as eternal division, from God, who loved them so much, that He had given his only born Son that those who believed in him would not be cursed, punished, and condemned, and would perish, but had eternal life. No conditions, just grace through faith in Christ.Heavenly Father, thank you that in your grace you offer free blessings of salvation to all who believe in Christ as the Savior. Thank you for loving me so much that you became a curse for me and died in my place, so by believing in your finished work on Calvary, I could be born on top and receive a lot of uncoordinated blessings of your resurrected life - thank you in the name of Jesus, AMIN. ◀: Deuteronomy 30:15 12345678910111111131314141617181920 1234567891011111111516171718181818191920 deuteronomy 30 19. deuteronomy 30 19-20. deuteronomy 30 19 meaning. deuteronomio 30 19. deuteronomy 30 19-20. deuteronomy 30 19-20 kjv. deuteronomy 30 19 20 meaning

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