



## Lesson 149 Choosing Wisely

Holy One of Israel, Listen to His Voice. Holy One of Israel, See His Works. Holy One of Israel, Know His Heart. You must indeed have ears open for hearing, eyes open for seeing, and most importantly a heart open for receiving. Life is in many ways about the choices we make as we move through it. For you can make good choices in life or you can choose the bad. The road, therefore, will either be leading you closer to Me or farther away.

You are beginning a New Year decide within yourself to make good choices. Decide to follow the path that I have laid out before you. Make wise choices. Move closer to Me. And realize too that there are many doors on the path you are moving down. Each door you choose leads you to the next section of road you will be walking on. Therefore, keep the doors to the enemy closed and only open those that bring you closer to Me. That is all for now, go in peace.

### Introduction

Today's lesson is about choosing wisely. It's about being receptive to the wisdom and guidance of the Lord as opposed to opening doors to the enemy. A psalmist once said:

**Psalm 1:1-6** *How blessed are those who reject the advice of the wicked, don't stand on the way of sinners or sit where scoffers sit! Their delight is in ADONAI's Torah; on his Torah they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams -they bear their fruit in season, their leaves never wither, everything they do succeeds. Not so the wicked, who are like chaff driven by the wind. For this reason the wicked won't stand up to the judgment, nor will sinners at the gathering of the righteous. For ADONAI watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed.*

In this passage the psalmist acknowledges the fact that we have to make choices as we go through life. This fact, was also acknowledged by the Lord, when He spoke to Joshua.

**Joshua 1: 5-9** *Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant*

*commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." ESV*

Thus the Lord explained to Joshua that success comes with right choices. However, this message did not stop with Joshua. No, this message of triumph and benefit continues to be delivered today through words like these:

07/03/13 CT - Choose wisely. Much is always at stake in all the choices you make in each and every day. Choose wisely. Choose a closer walk with Me. In this you will be well pleased.

08/12/13 MVA - Choices are made by each. Following all guidance and instruction of Your God Jesus is a choice. You have chosen wisely.

08/18/13 MVA - Each has opportunity, each a choice. Choose wisely. Excellence is made of wise choices.

Therefore as we move forward in this lesson we will speak of choices and doors and paths laid out. We will endeavor to explore these concepts in a little more detail in order to grow closer to the Lord.

## **Being Open**

The Holy Spirit began today's message with this:

Holy One of Israel, Listen to His Voice. Holy One of Israel, See His Works. Holy One of Israel, Know His Heart. You must indeed have ears open for hearing, eyes open for seeing, and most importantly a heart open for receiving.

Hence He began by informing us of the necessity of being open and receptive to the Lord. If you remember in the book of Ezekiel the Lord instructed the prophet to deliver a message to the house of Israel. The story goes like this:

**Ezekiel 2:1-3:6** *And he said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you." And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' And whether they hear or refuse to hear*

*(for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them.*

*And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions. Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house. And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house. "But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you." And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.*

*And he said to me, "Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." So I opened my mouth, and he gave me this scroll to eat. And he said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it. "Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey. And he said to me, "Son of man, go to the house of Israel, and speak with my words to them. For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel-- not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me: because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart.*

What I wanted you to get from this story is that those who do not listen, those who are not open to the Lord, these are a rebellious people and the Lord is not happy with them. He described them as impudent (brazen/blatant) and stubborn. But there are also consequences for rebelliousness. For example,

**Proverbs 1:20-32** *Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:*

*"How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.*

*Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of*

*the LORD, would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way, and have their fill of their own devices. For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but whoever listens to me will dwell secure and will be at ease, without dread of disaster."*

Hence one could say that it is only prudent (cautious, reasonable, shrewd) to be open to the Lord.

08/26/13 DP - Focus, clear mind necessary to receive from Me. I am pouring out like never before receive of My Spirit this is guidance pure and holy for your taking, receive. The things of My Spirit are life when followed out choose life through obedience.

09/04/13 BN - Do not be fooled, Test against My truth, Never forget to turn to Me...My guidance will never lead you astray like man's, Go on ...trusting in Me.

09/09/13 MVA - Keep focus on your God Jesus not man. I AM your guidance and instruction.

09/11/13 MVA - Keep eyes focused forward on your God Jesus. Move at the instruction and guidance of your God Jesus only. I will guide all to completion.

Therefore one could say that it only makes sense to be open to the Lord.

## Choices

In the last section we learned the importance of being open to the Lord and His guidance but when it comes down to it, in the end, then choices will have to be made. This week, in fact, the Lord said,

Life is in many ways about the choices we make as we move through it. For you can make good choices in life or you can choose the bad. The road, therefore, will either be leading you closer to Me or farther away.

**Deuteronomy 30:15,19** *"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil... I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live."*

The Lord acknowledges that there are choices to be made – *life and good, death and evil* consequently being open to His guidance, and allowing Him to lead us, well this is about making wise choices and it only makes sense. This point has also been expressed over the past few months through words like these:

06/11/13 MVA - On track for purpose fulfilled. Each decision made effects others. Ramifications good and bad are felt by the choices of each. Wise choices are

located in the counsel of your God Jesus. Each step walked out in fullness leads to the next. Each walk able to effect others. One person walking in step with your God Jesus seen and followed by many. One life walked in obedience changing effecting many. This is walking with your God Jesus hand in hand.

06/19/13 DP - Presence of the living God enjoy. Sacrifice, what about? Self to do My will hard choices will need to be made to be complete in Me deny self let it have no vacancy in you. Destroy that which comes against My rulings victory is in the action be victorious.

06/24/13 MVA - Wisdom and understanding have been given. Assemble pieces correctly. Ability given. Private assembly. Then public. I AM showing you truth of your God Jesus. Each must walk in. Choices are made by each. Continue forward momentum. Take hold that which is given. I AM directing and guiding your steps. Look to Me your God Jesus in all. Complete focus victory location. Keep order in all. Rightly divide. I AM showing you many things.

07/06/13 SN - Choices, We all have to make them.

08/05/13 MVA - On track. Continue correct choices. Each day choices are made. Time is spent on choices. Choose wisely. Time limits. Time short. Choose wisely. Each choice affects others. Consider importance. Think eternal in choices. Lasting choices.

09/06/13 MVA - Time spent with your God Jesus wise choice. Spending time is a choice continue to choose wisely. I AM leading and guiding all who will. Choices are made each day... Do not suppose. Walk in all the wisdom of your God Jesus.

Following the Lord's guidance towards sounds decisions that is what the Lord refers to as walking in the wisdom of our God Jesus. Our choices are important, as the Lord said, it's about *life and good* versus *death and evil*.

## **New Beginnings**

In the last section we learned the wisdom of making wise choices in the Lord. Thus far we have talked about being open to Him, having eyes for seeing, ears for hearing and a heart for receiving all the guidance that comes from the Lord. In this section the Lord will be speaking of making it our aim or our goal, essentially, He is talking about implementing a change in our outlook or mindset towards one that is more focused on following after His guidance in our decision making process.

You are beginning a New Year decide within yourself to make good choices. Decide to follow the path that I have laid out before you. Make wise choices. Move closer to Me.

**Psalm 48:14** *For this is God, Our God forever and ever; He will be our guide even to death.*

Each year, each day, each moment in time presents the opportunity for us to make the positive decision of following after the Lord's guidance, of making wise choices, of moving closer to Him.

07/10/13 MVA - New beginnings. Many will have new beginnings. Each will then have choices to make. Opportunity for good. I will instruct what and when to do things. You need only focus on your God Jesus in all. I AM well able to cleanse and rebuild each. As each focus on your God Jesus I AM able to move. Level of focus level of cleansing. Each must walk in completeness in your God Jesus.

07/31/13 MVA - Disappointments not, new beginnings yes. I AM in control of all. Your God Jesus agenda on stage.

08/05/13 KE - New beginnings each day. A fresh one is ahead.

08/24/13 KE - New beginnings / Fresh day ahead / Much to do / Continue forward.

09/09/13 MVA - Time will tell. Each being drawn close to your God Jesus. New beginnings. Established in all who will. Development. See to it. Damage not tender fruit. Keep focus on your God Jesus not man. I AM your guidance and instruction.

Remember the Lord began today's lesson by speaking of being open to receiving guidance from the Lord. We determined that He was talking about making wise choices inclusive of the wise choice of making it our aim to implement a change in our mindset by becoming more focused on the Lord and His guidance. Basically, what I think we learned from this section is that new beginnings can occur at any moment. Therefore we can decide to at any moment to start a fresh, to make wise decisions, to begin again in Him.

## **Doors**

Starting a fresh, beginning anew, making wise decision, becoming more focused on the Lord, listening, seeing, receiving, in essence what we are talking about is moving down a path that leads us closer to the Lord. But what do you think happens as we move down this path? Well, the Lord said this, of this path we are moving down:

And realize too that there are many doors on the path you are moving down. Each door you choose leads you to the next section of road you will be walking on. Therefore, keep the doors to the enemy closed and only open those that bring you closer to Me.

So what this is saying to me is that each day, each moment we move through in this life, this action of moving, this can be compared to moving down a path. The Lord is painting a picture here and He is using a path as a part of His illustration of our life. And what He asks us to envision here is that as we are moving down

this path, we are going to be coming across many doors. Now of these doors, there are some that will lead to *life and good*, but there are others that will lead to *death and evil*, and it is up to us to make wise choices. But in order to make a wise choice we need to have an intimate knowledge and relationship with the Lord. We need to seek His guidance and direction for our lives because we don't want to make the mistake of opening a door that leads us away from the Lord towards the enemy instead.

**September 13<sup>th</sup> God Calling Eventide** - No longer has sin any power over you unless of your own deliberate choice. **The surest way to safeguard yourself against any temptation to sin is to learn to love to do My Will**, and to love to have that Will done in all the little as well as in all the big things in your daily life. And in this was the mindset part, but let me translate, to help make the point a little more clearly. It would go something like this: **The surest way to safeguard yourself against poor choices is to learn to love to do the Lord's will**. But there are other safeguards as well some of which are listed in the words below:

08/10/13 DP - Do not lose focus or be distracted by the world and it's offerings think eternal everlasting effects of choices made today. Seek My guidance in all things so you won't be led astray don't assume you know anything without getting it from Me, trust what you receive I haven't given you a spirit of fear and doubt but of power and a sound mind.

08/30/13 Watchman - Cajole not; Be pure; thought and deed; My disciples; My trusted; careful choices; My footsteps.

09/06/13 BT - Watch what you put before your eyes and ears. Remember be holy for I AM HOLY.

09/06/13 CT - Be appropriate, do appropriate, act appropriate... Be an example. Be holy, be pure, be humble. Watch your words. Move forward in righteousness.

09/09/13 BT - What you eat physically and what you eat spiritually are important. You must maintain both bodies to complete your tasks. The enemy is working to remove you anyway he can, Physically or Spiritually. Be on guard. Watch what you eat. Be careful what you put before your eyes and ears. Eat simply, like David, and focus on Me. This is serious.

All the doors we come across are important. We get to choose *life and good* or *death and evil*. Consequently, each moment of decision is in actuality a crossroads accessed by the door we chose to open or walk past. Therefore these doors of decision they will either lead you to a deeper, closer walk with the Lord or they can lead you farther away from Him but it's all up to you and what you choose. Each choice, each doors is important none are to under-estimated. This is what He is teaching us today.

## Summation

We began today's lesson by talking about being receptive to the wisdom and guidance of the Lord as opposed to opening doors to the enemy. As we moved through the lesson we learned the importance of choices. Of course, as we have moved forward in the Lord He has taught us that:

**September 24<sup>th</sup> God Calling Eventide** – Absolute love must decide your actions. Fear nothing. Ride the storm. Delight to do My Will. Not only money affairs, lay all your letters, your work, all, upon My altar.

Yes, He has of course taught us that love should determine our actions. In the past we learned that when you love someone you want the best for them, so we of course, as followers of Christ's example, we should want the best for all His children. So our decisions are important. We've learned this, but maybe, with the words the Lord gave today, with these words I think He wanted to remind us to keep all the doors closed to the enemy only open to Him. He delivered this message through these words:

Holy One of Israel, Listen to His Voice. Holy One of Israel, See His Works. Holy One of Israel, Know His Heart. You must indeed have ears open for hearing, eyes open for seeing, and most importantly a heart open for receiving. Life is in many ways about the choices we make as we move through it. For you can make good choices in life or you can choose the bad. The road, therefore, will either be leading you closer to Me or farther away.

You are beginning a New Year decide within yourself to make good choices. Decide to follow the path that I have laid out before you. Make wise choices. Move closer to Me. And realize too that there are many doors on the path you are moving down. Each door you choose leads you to the next section of road you will be walking on. Therefore, keep the doors to the enemy closed and only open those that bring you closer to Me. That is all for now, go in peace.

Therefore remember that all our choices should be made through His leading.

06/12/13 DP - Chances, make choices under My leading.

Make the right choices, follow the Lord's leading, to a closer relationship with Him. And don't open the doors to the enemy, in this you will be blessed.

May the Lord Bless you in this,

Cindy

<http://www.takehisheart.com>