

Men of Unity 2017
A Psalm For Every Season
“Choices”
Psalm 1

January 14, 2017

...his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night.” (Psalm 1:2)

I. Life is Truly About Choices

- a. How many choices and decisions did you make in 2016? How many life changing choices or decisions will make in 2017? Are others depending on your choices?
- b. Choice - an act of selecting or making a decision when faced with two or more possibilities.
- c. Decision - a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration.
- d. How do you determine whether something was a good decision?

II. Two choices and One Right Decision

- a. Psalm 1 highlights two choices: the way of the righteous and the wicked (unrighteous).
- b. The psalmist guarantees a good outcome if you make the decision to choose God’s Word.
- c. What impacts the way we think, behave, and live?
- d. Notice we have the choices of *counsel* (thinking), *way* (behaving), and *seat* (living, lifestyle).
- e. These three actions present distinct departures from God and illustrate conformity to this world.
 1. The negatives give us a clear choice to select the positive. In the Garden of Eden, God gave man a negative to allow him the privilege of a decisive choice.
- f. The one “positive” choice among the negatives is *taking delight in the law of the Lord*. The *Law*, basically means direction or instruction. (Joshua 1:8)
- g. Psalm 1 focuses on the *mind* as the key to man making the righteous decisions. (look at v. 2)
- h. Psalm 119 makes it clear that *the Law of the Lord* is the whole truth of God revealed in His Word.
- i. There is an invitation here for us to “think hard” (meditate) on what the will of God is, so that we will make the right decision.

III. The Decision to be Rooted Will Produce Fruit

- a. The outcome of a godly person who makes the decision to delight in the Law? He will be like a tree? What does a tree produce and provide? Strength, stability, fruitfulness, beauty, and shade.
- b. The phrase *its fruit in its season* emphasizes the uniqueness and the quiet growth of fruit.
 1. The tree is a living organism that is designed to produce leaves and fruit in its season.
 2. As long as the tree has roots near the water, whatever it produces (leaves/fruit) is not affected by the environment.
 3. The Word of God is relevant for all seasons to produce unique fruit within our environments.
- c. A man whose life is rooted in the Word of God, will be attractive and refreshing to others.
- d. The *chaff* represents those lives that are not rooted in the Word. (Matt 3:12)
- e. Have you noticed that people who are not rooted in the Word are unstable and blow from one thing to another? (James 1:8)
- f. Those who stand with the ungodly cannot stand with the righteous. You must choose one way.
- g. Take heed to good counsel. Read Proverbs 3:25-35, words that will produce fruit in your life.

IV. Meditations, Considerations and Actions

- a. You may not have control of your environment, but you do have the ability to control your thinking, behavior, and actions within the environment.
- b. Always stand for the truth. Eventually, you will be respected for standing firm in your convictions.
- c. Keep God in the decision making process. “Be rooted with wings”.