**Decisions, Decisions!**

Our lives bring us into contact with all kinds of people. While there are lots of factors that contribute to peoples’ circumstances, the fact is that some folks have made some wise choices in their lives while others have chosen to engage in some pretty self-destructive behavior. In most cases, people make key decisions that help set the course of the rest of their lives. This phenomenon is crucial enough to warrant some careful consideration.

Our beliefs determine our values and our values, to a great extent, drive the decisions we make. A person may believe in the Creator when confronted with the evidence He has made available to us. If they, in turn, decide to make the commitment to submit their own will to the will of God, that commitment becomes the driving force behind every subsequent decision the person makes from then on.

God has revealed His will through the inspired writings of the Scriptures. Submitting my will to His will means learning the principles taught in the Bible and making His values my values. Making a life-long commitment to reading and studying God’s word is a life-changing decision.

Two individuals may lead very similar lives until, one day, they reach a fork in the road. They both are exposed to the truth of the gospel, but one believes and is converted while the other rejects the message. From that day forward, their paths are divergent because all their subsequent decisions are influenced by their conflicting commitments. Our decisions have consequences and no decision can compare with the gravity of whether or not to submit to the will of God.

Many decide to listen to the wisdom of this world instead of the wisdom of their Creator. They are determined to live in accordance with their own wants and wishes, likes and dislikes, and their decisions have consequences. “The way of man is not in himself; it is not in a man who walks to direct his steps” (Jeremiah 10:23). “There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12). The godless life is often fraught with temporal trouble and always results in spiritual destruction.

The life of the Christian stands in stark contrast with the wisdom of men. The one who created us knows what is best. He loves us and wants what is best for us. His ways and thoughts are far above our ways and thoughts (Isaiah 55:8-9). Because of that, a life built upon His teachings and commands reflects His wisdom and is rich and full, characterized by peace and joy and love, industry and commitment, integrity and faithfulness. Many who otherwise might have scoffed at His law can see the richness of the God-centered life and glorify the One we serve (Matthew 5:14-16).

The decisions you make can have a profound effect on the course of your life. No matter how destructive your past decisions may have been, you are at a crossroads now. You can choose to devote your life to Jesus Christ and, from this point forward, determine to let Him direct your future decisions through the teachings of His New Testament. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Only Jesus can give you a richer life now and a home with God throughout eternity. The decision is yours.

**John McKee**

**West Murray church of Christ**