

Decision Making
Heb 5:14
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of making wise decisions.

Intro: 1. Discernment – means to see and identify by noting differences.
2. Distinguishing good from evil.
3. Great people have fallen because of poor discernment or decision making.

I. Good and Evil

- A. Many are against any attempt to classify good and evil (Heb 5:14).
 - 1. Right and wrong for many is different to every person even if the principal is the same.
 - 2. Some say there is no absolute right and wrong-the Bible says there is -Pro 14:12, Heb 5:14
- B. The right or wrong is not just a matter of personal thinking.
 - 1. The battle today is men change right to fit them.
 - 2. Rather than changing themselves to fit what is right.
- C. The Bible speaks of good and evil.
 - 1. Good & Evil – Ps 37:23, Ps 140:1
 - 2. Good morals & Bad – 1cor 15:33 & 1 Sam 2:23

II. Biblical Failures in making decisions.

- A. The “arrogant society” who sought to stone a woman (Jn 8:3-11).
 - 1. Self righteous people brought a woman to be judged.
 - 2. In their arrogance they left the man & brought the woman.
- B. The rich man who was called a fool (Lk 12:16-21).
 - 1. He was smart enough to make a living, but too foolish to have eternal life.
 - 2. He thought he had all he needed in a barn.
- C. The Pharisees who tried to trap Jesus (Mt 22:15-22).
 - 1. The Pharisees wanted to trap Christ.
 - 2. They had no desire for truth.

III. Guides for wise decision making

- A. Faith in God (Heb 11:24-25).
 - 1. We must make sound decisions and have faith in God.
 - 2. We must not doubt God’s wisdom.
- B. Love for God.
 - 1. A love for God should lead us to righteous choices (Jn 14:23).
 - 2. Godly choices led us to love God more and possessions less (2 Tim 3:4).
- C. Courage
 - 1. We must have courage to make godly decisions around others (Mt 10:28).
 - 2. We must not give in (1 Sam 15:24).
- D. Caution
 - 1. We must be cautious.
 - 2. Godly decisions lead us to God; ungodly ones separate us from God (Pro 22:3).

E. Investigation

1. We must investigate and not blindly accept anything (Acts 17:11).
2. A wise person investigates before making a decision (Pro 13:16, Pro 14:15).

- Conc:
1. Decisions are not always easy or simple
 2. We must however make wise decisions, decisions, which are made in agreement with the Bible.
 3. Full Invitation