

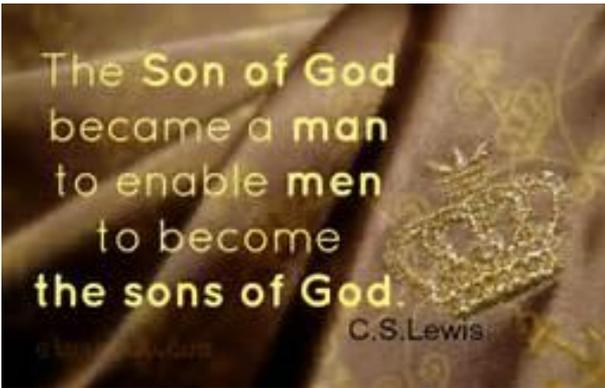
THE
CHOICES
WE MAKE
DETERMINE
OUR
DESTINY!



TRUE CHRISTIANITY IS A ***RELATIONSHIP***

NOT JUST A RELIGION

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called **children of God!** Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, **now we are children of God;** and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him,** for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."
(1John 3:1-3)



"...giving thanks to **the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.** He has delivered us from the power of darkness and

conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom **we have redemption through His blood,** the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, **that in all things He may have the preeminence.**"
(Col 1:12-18)

AN AMAZING THING...

**ALMIGHTY GOD WANTS A
*CLOSE PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP
WITH ME!!!***

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. **I have come that they may have life**, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. **The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.** (John 10:10-11)

"For God so loved the world that **He gave His only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but **have everlasting life**. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that **the world through Him might be saved**. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:16-18)



BUT, IT IS UP TO ME

"Jesus answered and said to him, **'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again,** he cannot see the kingdom of God... That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.** (John 3:3-6)



"For whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

(Romans 10:13)

"And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, **'God,**

be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other (*the other was a very religious man*); for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, **and he who humbles himself will be exalted."**

(Luke 18:13-14)

"Thus says the Lord: 'Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool... **But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.'**"

(Isaiah 66:1-2)

TEMPTATION
Temporary Gain!



SATAN AND HIS WORLD WANT MY ATTENTION AND MY LIFE

"**Beware lest anyone cheat you** through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."
(Colossians 2:8)

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary **the devil** walks about like a roaring lion, **seeking whom he may devour.**"
(1PETER 5:8)

THREE VERY IMPORTANT HELPFUL STEPS

1. FORGET PAST CONFESSED SINS



"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, **forgetting those things which are behind** and reaching forward to those things which are ahead"
(Philippians 3:13)

2. TRULY GRASP AND BELIEVE GOD'S LOVE FOR ME

"...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being **rooted and grounded**



in love, may be able to **comprehend** (*grasp and make it my own*) **with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ** which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:17-19)



3. COMMIT AND DEDICATE MY LIFE TO GOD'S PURPOSES

(Jesus Christ prayed this about true Christians...)

"As You sent Me into the world, **I also have sent them into the world.**"

(John 17:18)

"You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but **grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever.** Amen." (2 Peter 3:17-18)

THREE VERY IMPORTANT AND HARMFUL ERRORS



1. TREATING GOD AS MY SERVANT RATHER THAN I AM HIS SERVANT

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.**" (Romans 12:1)

2. NOT REALLY GRASPING AND LIVING IN GOD'S LOVE

"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love." (John 15:9)

"If you love Me, keep My commandments." (John 14:15)

"And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. **God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.**" (1John 4:16)



"Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you**, whom you have from God, and **you are not your own?** For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, **which are God's.**" (1Corinthians 6:19-20)

"And whatever you do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.**" (Colossians 3:17)

3. NOT BELIEVING THAT WHAT I DO AFFECTS MY LIFE AND MY RELATIONSHIP *(not His love)* WITH GOD



"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.**" (Galatians 6:7)

"Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, **to be well pleasing to Him.** For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things done in the body, **according to what he has done, whether good or bad.**" (2Corinthians 5:9-10)

What's Your Choice?



PART OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST

The church to which all and only Christians are members
(Acts 2:47b).

This is not a man made denomination nor a religion, but a life!

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