

## For Our Information

Brenda Keisler should have her nerve procedure before the end of the month. This should relieve her neck pain.

The Wright family moved yesterday. Their new address should be posted on the bulletin board.

Jordan experienced some braxton hix contractions yesterday morning and went to the hospital yesterday afternoon do be checked out because they continued for an extended time.

Thelma McCray, Donna Allen's mother, passed away this past week. Keep them in your prayers.

Keep your brothers & sisters in mind

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

### Church of Christ

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Visit us on the web at

[tannerst.com](http://tannerst.com)

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

Remember, Jesus said: *"No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God"* **Luke 9:62**. To be a Christian means that we must be willing to give all that we are and have to God and his cause. The apostle Paul said in **Romans 12:1-2** that we are to present our bodies a *"living sacrifice"*. This means that we give our whole lives to God completely and totally. The decision to serve the Lord is a "long term" decision -- it is for all time. Those who start and look back are not suited for the kingdom of God.

The decision to serve God requires mature judgment, it is not a child's game. One should not be rushed by unreasoned emotions or influenced by family, business or social considerations. One must be convicted by God's word of their sins and their need to obey the gospel of Christ. Yet, despite the cost, it is the best and greatest decision that one can make, because it alone has to do with the destiny of our eternal soul. If not to Christ, to whom shall we go? **John 6:66-69**.

(Every decision matters. Study with diligence and care. DLH)

# Seeking His Righteousness

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## Right Decisions

Jerry L Henderson

Every day individuals make many decisions about various aspects of their life. Some decisions that are made are critical to our very existence. Just think of all the decisions that an individual makes every time the drive an automobile on our streets and highways. Then there are decisions that must be made regarding medical care: which doctor will we use; should we take the medicine the doctor prescribes and the list goes on involving decisions that could very well determine whether we live or die. Of course, there are decisions that are made that are not of a critical nature and many of these are made with very little or no thought about the outcome; such as: what time shall I get up; what shall I wear; what shall I have for breakfast, lunch or dinner; what TV program shall I watch, etc.,



*How long  
halt ye  
between two  
opinions? If  
the Lord be  
God follow  
him: but if  
Baal, then  
follow him.  
1Kings 18:21*



## Meet With Us

### Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

### Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

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etc., and the list goes on. So it is obvious that each individual makes many, many decisions each day, some conscious, deliberate decisions and some without any conscious deliberation.

In **1Kings 18:21** Elijah called upon the people to make a decision that was critical to their spiritual well-being. He said: *"How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God follow him: but if Baal, then follow him."* Elijah called upon Israel to make the **"Right Decision."** Of all the decisions we will make and must make, the most important decision of all (**The "Right Decision"**) is the decision to follow the Lord, to be just a Christian. Jesus said *"No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."* **Matthew 6:24**. So, the **"Right"** decision, that is, deciding to have Jesus Christ as our master and serve Him is a conscious, deliberate decision which has eternal consequences. However, in making this **"Right"** decision we need to understand several things that are involved in making **"Right"** decisions.

**Require Courage:** In Judges chapter seven there is the example of Gideon demonstrating his courage in making the decision to follow God's plans even though to human minds it would seem very bad judgment. God called upon Gideon to take only three hundred men and go against the armies of the Midianites. Even though, from a human standpoint this would have seemed foolish, yet Gideon had the courage to make the right decision and follow God's plan and as a result he was able to defeat his enemy. He had the courage to depend on the strength of God, not on numbers and arms. You will also note the courage of Elijah in **1Kings 18**. He had the courage to stand with God even though he stood alone against a powerful and wicked king who had been seeking him with full intentions of killing him. God cannot use the *"fearful and trembling"* **Deuteronomy 20:1,8**. The

## Store In My Heart

### Acts 4:11-12

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Though Jesus was rejected by Israel, God continued to unfold His eternal plan for man's salvation. Jesus, the Son of God, became salvation for the very ones who had rejected Him as the Messiah.

The only hope we have to be with God is through Jesus and the sacrifice He made on Calvary.

This is the Gospel story. This is the message God desires for all His children to proclaim to the world. Tell the lost that Jesus is the way of salvation for all men.

*"fearful"* will be lost, so says **Revelation 21:8**. It takes a lot of courage to make the **"Right"** decision, the decision to follow the Lord and do as His word directs.

**Require Intelligent Consideration:** Jesus, in **Luke 14:28-33**, teaches the importance of counting the cost of a particular course of action. We must consider every aspect of a given situation before we make a decision to act. Gospel obedience is not by "accident" or "blindly" made decision, there is teaching, hearing and learning that must be done **Matthew 28:19; John 6:45**. One cannot just take some man's word for what they must do to make the **"Right"** decision, but must search and examine the Scriptures to determine if what they are told is true **Acts 17:11**. We must count the cost and be willing to accept heavy sacrifices, which may involve going against what we have been taught in the past **Luke 14:26-33**. We are not promised an easy road, in fact, just the opposite **2Timothy 3:12**. However, the rewards are great, if we remain faithful to our decision to follow the Lord.

**Impose Obligations:** A pledge to serve God, while keeping our idols, is meaningless according to **Joshua 24:14-24**. And the word *"idols"* does not just refer to some kind of little statue or image, they can be anything that stands between us and God. Remember Jesus said you cannot serve two masters, your cannot serve God and material things at the same time **Matthew 6:24**. Jehovah is a holy God, a *"jealous God."* He will not accept service from those who are not willing to give up their pride and vanity and give themselves in selflessness to him. We must put away any rival affections and incline our hearts to Jehovah, hear Him **Joshua 24:23**. This might involve giving up some forms of recreation, entertainment, in some cases our jobs, or possibly some of our family members.

**Must Be Made Wholeheartedly:** Neither material considerations nor any earthly obligations are first.