

AT THE FORK IN THE ROAD

Hebrews 11:24-26

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Picture a person traveling and he comes to a place where the road divides, a fork in the road. A choice must be made. **see map**
 - 1. One, fearing he may go in wrong direction, turns back.
 - 2. Another, chooses one of the two and steadfastly travels on, this is a person of decision.
- B. For young, choice is very important, especially as to whether to serve the Lord or not, there are always important choices to be made.
- C. For older, choice may not be as critical since many choices have been made already, but examine choices made to see if they were right and if so be encouraged to abide in the choices we have made.
- D. In Scripture many made right choices, such as Joseph, Joshua, Elijah, Paul, but possibly none stand out more than Moses. Heb 11:24-26

DISCUSSION:

I. MOSES AT THE FORK IN THE ROAD.

- A. When Moses reached fork in road he made definite choices and revealed himself to be a man of decision.
- B. In every person's life decisions must be made: between Flesh and Spirit, God and Satan, God's people and Satan's people.
 - 1. Choose self, friends, family, way of least resistance, or God?
 - 2. Matters not what successes one may enjoy or promises world may hold, the choice of God must be made.
 - 3. Anyone not deciding for God, is "against" God Matt 12:30

II. SOME THINGS INVOLVED IN CHOOSING

- A. Always two elements in every decision: negative and positive - refusal and acceptance.
 - 1. Moses said "No" to something. He said "No," and meant it.
 - a. Refusal implies temptation and perception.
 - b. Moses could have reasoned God had determined he was to remain in Pharaoh's house since God placed him there
 - 2. Moses did more than say "No." He said "Yes," and identified himself with the people of God
 - 3. He refused to go one way, in order to go another.
- B. Right living does not consist solely of giving up evil things.
 - 1. When we take something out of our lives that is not pleasing to God, we must put something in its place; or the devil will try to fill that void. Lk 11:24-26
 - 2. Don't just stop serving sin, we start serving God Rom 6:11-13, 19

III. GREAT DECISIONS ARE ALWAYS COSTLY

- A. Moses had much to give up - He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter
 - 1. Gave up highest social position in Egypt, did not want to be identified with the people of the world

- a. Some parents have this reversed, they want children to be identified with the world, accepted by society.
 - b. They succeed in things of world, but fail in spiritual things
 - c. No doubt, Moses' decision brought disappointment to those who had given him his training, position and opportunities. Yet, he turned away from all those
- 2. He did not choose the temporary pleasures of sin, he could have had all his desires satisfied by keeping his position.
 - a. All sinful pleasures are temporary, don't bring happiness
 - b. All will be destroyed with the world. 1Jhn 2:15-17
 - 3. He did not choose the treasures of Egypt, which had vast wealth, shown by excavations of tombs of Pharaohs.
- B. Cost of his choice not measured only by what he gave up, but he chose suffering with the people of God.
 - 1. Expected life of hardship as a result of his choice. 2Tim 3:12
 - 2. Term "reproach of Christ" stands for any who unfairly or unjustly suffers 1Pet 2:19-21

IV. HOW DID MOSES COME TO MAKE THIS CHOICE?

- A. His faith the motivating factor "By faith Moses..."
 - 1. Faith caused him to look to heavenly treasures not earthly
 - 2. Gospel shows what spiritual blessings are our's when we make the choice of them 1Pet 1:3-5; 2Pet 1:1-4
- B. Moses could distinguish right from wrong Heb 5:14
 - 1. Comprehend things of real value 2Cor 5:1
 - 2. He knew pleasures of world are temporary Lk 12:19-20
 - 3. Set heart on things above not on earth Col 3:1-3; 1Pet 1:13
 - 4. Anticipated the reward and accepted whatever labor and hardship necessary to obtain it 2Cor 4:17; Rom 8:18

V. WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME OF HIS DECISION?

- A. Developed into one of greatest Bible characters Ex 34:29-33
- B. Enabled him to render a great service to his people and world
- C. Enabled him to reach heaven
- D. Standing by Moses in Egypt, his choice may seem to be foolish and absurd, but standing by Christ on Mount of Transfiguration we know it was the only wise choice to make Matt 17:1-3

CONCLUSION:

- A. What is your decision in life today? Which road will you take?
- B. Our choice is essentially the same one Moses had to make.
 - 1. Will we identify ourselves with world or people of God?
 - 2. Enjoy pleasures of sin for a season or pleasures of righteousness?
 - 3. Eternal destruction of soul or be rewarded with eternal life?
- C. What will your decision be? Jesus or the devil - heaven or hell