

Doctrine of Choosing

1. In military matters, and other affairs of life, individuals make certain choices based on the circumstances at hand.
 - *Exodus 17:9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.*

2. God chooses many things in the affairs of men.
 - God will choose the holy person over the unholy one. *Numbers 16:7 And put fire therein, and put incense in them before the Lord to morrow: and it shall be that the man whom the Lord doth choose, he shall be holy: ye take too much upon you, ye sons of Levi.*
 - God will choose one instrument over another. *Numbers 17:5 And it shall come to pass, that the man's rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom: and I will make to cease from me the murmurings of the children of Israel, whereby they murmur against you.*
 - God will sovereignly choose one nation to love and bless above another. *Deuteronomy 7:7 The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:*
 - God will choose a geographical location for His people. *Deuteronomy 12:5 But unto the place which the Lord your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:*
 - God will choose the place of worship. *Deuteronomy 12:11 Then there shall be a place which the Lord your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the Lord:*
 - God will choose the place of eating as a form of worship and as a token of fellowship with the Lord. *Deuteronomy 12:18 But thou must eat them before the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord thy God shall choose, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that is within thy gates: and thou shalt rejoice before the Lord thy God in all that thou puttest thine hands unto.*
 - God will choose what solemn feasts are to be kept. *Deuteronomy 16:15 Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose: because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.*

- God will choose between a matter too hard for human judgment. *Deuteronomy 17:8 If there arise a matter too hard for thee in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within thy gates: then shalt thou arise, and get thee up into the place which the Lord thy God shall choose; 9 And thou shalt come unto the priests the Levites, and unto the judge that shall be in those days, and inquire; and they shall shew thee the sentence of judgment: 10 And thou shalt do according to the sentence, which they of that place which the Lord shall choose shall shew thee; and thou shalt observe to do according to all that they inform thee:*
 - The Lord God will choose the king over a nation. *Deuteronomy 17:15 Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom the Lord thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother.*
 - The Lord will turn even the wise counsel of the ungodly into foolishness as he did in the case of Ahithophel at the hands of Hushai. The story is told in 2 Samuel 17:1-14. *2 Samuel 17:14 And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel. For the Lord had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the Lord might bring evil upon Absalom.*
 - On occasion, the Lord might give a man a limited choice over his own discipline. *2 Samuel 24:12 Go and say unto David, Thus saith the Lord, I offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.*
 - God has a choice people, the elect. *Nehemiah 9:7 Thou art the Lord the God, who didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham;*
3. Nations can choose life, or they can choose death.
- *Deuteronomy 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:*
4. Because of redeeming grace and the soul being set free from the bondage of sin, individuals can choose the Lord, to serve Him.
- *Joshua 24:22 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the Lord, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses.*
5. Because the will is able to choose between right and wrong, good and evil, bad choices can be made. Israel made a bad choice when they wanted a king like other nations instead of abiding in a theocracy.

- *1 Samuel 8:18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day.*
6. The ungodly will mock the choices of the righteous as the Philistine mocked the warriors of Saul.
- *1 Samuel 17:8 And he [Goliath] stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? Am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? Choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.*
7. Because God is intimately involved in the affairs of men, He will choose those whom He wants to stand before Him and to serve Him as ministers.
- *2 Chronicles 29:11 My sons, be not now negligent: for the Lord hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense.*
8. The Lord Jesus made a choice of twelve disciples knowing that one of them was a devil.
- *John 6:70 Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?*
9. In the matter of salvation and service, God chooses whom He wills.
- *John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*
10. One reason why the world hates Christians is because they have been chosen by God.
- *John 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.*
11. From the beginning of time, individuals have been chosen by God to salvation.
- *2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:*