

Sunday, January 1, 2012

How to Make a Quality Decision Pastor Charles Mendenhall

Isaiah 60:1 (AMP)

¹ARISE [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you-- rise to a new life]! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

A prophetic word was read by pastor from Randall Grier that was published in his newsletter.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (KJV)

⁹But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ¹⁰But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

The year 2012 will be a time that My people will overcome and a new race in the Spirit they will run. Just as I spoke at the tomb of Lazarus and said, "Loose him and let him go", I am declaring from Heaven my people are loosed and will move forward in my power in this hour. The prayers of my people have brought this about and of that fact do not doubt. The spiritual walls of Jericho shall fall and The Promised Land shall be possessed. Move forward in faith relying on My power, My mercy and grace. The walls will fall as you shout in faith and you shall triumph over the enemy.

Do not fear but demand and command your rights from the devil in Christ Jesus and you will see the devil flee and you will walk in supernatural victory.

Many times we decide and say we are going to do something and on the inside we want to but we haven't counted the cost and sometimes we don't know how to make the decisions to stick with it.

In Luke chapter 14 Jesus teaches that we are not only to be a convert but to be a disciple or close follower of him that there was a cost and price to it. His emphasis on teaching it was on finishing not beginning. He likened it to a builder who before he builds he counts the cost lest he begin to build and couldn't complete it and everyone say he is a

fool or a failure. So it is if you are going to be a disciple, a disciplined follower, you need to count the cost to finish the race.

Anyone can start, but sometimes not as many will finish. A quality decision is always based on finishing not just starting.

Sometimes we have the misconception when we decide to make a quality decision spiritually such as reading the bible, or being more faithful to attending church, etc. that there will be opposition to try and prevent us from following through and especially when it is a spiritual decision.

Many times we rejoice over the children of Israel entering The Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua we must remember that he had to defeat 31 kings in five years to obtain possession of the Promised Land. It wasn't handed over on a silver platter Joshua had to drive out the kings. The time in between was has been promised by God and possession of it will contain opposition.

We must understand that in the midst of opposition the Greater One is in us and we have the power and ability to overcome and drive out the enemy before us regardless of how large or big the opposition. It can be done because Jesus is within us.

We cannot forget we have will power.

1 Peter 1:13 (KJV)

¹³Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

Gird means to get ready to do something difficult that is going to demand action. In relationship to us making a quality decision it is going to involve our mind because we want to do right and then our flesh, our emotions will begin to be at war and circumstances come along and we don't end up following through. We can follow through and overcome.

Hebrews chapter 11 verses 23-29 five times in relation to the life of Moses and fulfilling the plan and purpose for his life it makes the statement that it was by and through faith that it was accomplished. So anytime you and I do anything for the Lord Jesus Christ or we make a quality decision it's going to be by faith. The book of Ecclesiastes makes the point that if we wait until everything is just right we will never do anything. We can't wait until everything is just right or we will never get anything accomplished that is worthwhile.

A quality decision not once and awhile but every time will bring you closer to your destiny in life.

Hebrews 11:23-29 (KJV)

²³By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

²⁴By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

²⁵Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

²⁶Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

²⁷By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

²⁸Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

²⁹By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

Verse 25 uses the word choosing. There must come a time in our life when we are really going to make a choice if we are really going to be counted on God's side or stay vacillating back and forth with the world and the pleasures of sin that are for a season. Sin does have pleasure for a season. The pleasures of sin are for a lifetime here on the earth. When we make a choice to be counted with God's people we are making a choice that we aren't going to enjoy the pleasures of sin here on the earth because we are looking at the overall picture that this earth is temporal and our pursuit is something greater than what is on this earth. There is a heaven to gain. Moses had made the choice.

Moses was in line for a large inheritance, basically anything he wanted in Egypt, for being considered the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He was highly educated. Verse 24 states that by faith he refused.

In making a quality decision you will have to determine what really is important. There are some things you will have to not get involved in and refuse if you are going to carry it out. Anybody can start but Jesus put the emphasis on finishing.

Verse 26 uses the word esteeming. To esteem something you judge it, weigh it or balance it out. There is a value put on it. Moses was in line to be extremely wealthy but he weighed it all out on the balance scales and determined that the greater riches dwelt with Jesus Christ. When we esteem something in that manner it is easier to make the choice, the right choice, and it's easier to refuse if we look at it in the light of eternity and that it will bring us closer to the plan and purpose that God has for us. Every major decision we make should bring us closer to the purpose God has for us.

There are natural decisions that are going to cause some action on our part. We don't just weigh them on the inside, we should have some following through and corresponding actions to our choices and what we have esteemed and what we are now refusing.

In verse 27 when Moses forsook Egypt he had corresponding actions. He left opportunities for wealth and leadership. Later on he became one of the great leaders in the bible. He led a people out of Egypt that rebelled on the first day but he didn't give up. They kept rebelling for 38 years and then in the last two years were the glorious times in his ministry. There is that time when we actually have corresponding actions with our decisions.

He began to see with the eye of his faith that which is invisible. He kept his eye on Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 12:2-3 (MSG)

Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

We endure by seeing Him that is invisible. Jesus finished his course. He never lost sight of where he was headed. We endure and go through challenges and difficult times knowing that they are only temporary and when we fix our eyes on Jesus it's for eternity. When we think of what He went through we can make it through because He is in us. He is with us giving us the ability.

Back to verse 28 in Hebrews 11. They through faith kept the Passover. There are times in our life that it may look like things are falling apart around us but that doesn't change the covenant we have with the Almighty God.

Verse 29 is where the quality decision was completed. Quality decisions are ongoing but there are results from them.

Right after the crossing they complained and wanted to go back. In captivity boundaries are set. When freedom and liberty come you have to set your own boundaries and determine what is right and wrong. For us to follow through and finish we must set boundaries. Nobody will set them for you.

A quality decisions is one that you are going to follow through, complete and finish. When you finish you will enjoy the fruit of it.

