

Power of Choice



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The greatest weapon a human being has against the power of darkness, and the weapon Satan tries to keep everyone in the dark about, is that the Atonement sacrifice of Jesus Christ has freed every believer from sin, sorrow, Satan; oppression, and poverty forever. Calvary's cross gives us a new life, changed our citizenship to Heaven, and gives access to the divine power of God to do great things for us.

This divine principle has been ignored and covered up by the professing Christian world, and which gives Satan the advantage and control of those who only profess to be Christians. Allowing Satan to deceive them, by ignoring that divine principle of trust on the Blood of Christ, prevents God from bestowing His blessings on them, and worst of all, it makes *God* responsible for all the problems, oppressions, troubles, and sorrows the *devil* caused.

Everyone has the power to choose what they will believe, but this freewill choice seems to be totally ignored and lost sight of by most of those professing faith in Christ. The false doctrine of Calvinism teaches that humans have no control of their destiny—they are either born to be saved, or born to be lost forever. There is no power of choice on the individual's part, but is all up to God, who ordains certain people to be lost, and certain people be saved; regardless of how they used their power of choice in this life. Once Saved Always Saved doctrine is a lie from the devil.

The vast majority of people—professing believers of all church groups, place the blame for the problems, troubles, illnesses, sorrows,

difficulties, and untimely passing of loved ones on God. This comes from not knowing God, and from ignoring their power to choose what they believe. They think it is a strange providence that has allowed calamities to take place.

This delusive and false doctrine has allowed Satan to rob people spiritually, physically, financially, in their homes, and in every other aspect of life. Blaming God for the difficulties they experience is the prevailing doctrine of today. Jesus said *John 10:10* "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy: I have come that they may have Life, and may have it in abundance."

If someone cooked us a delicious meal, and then called us to the table, but we refuse to partake of the food, we would rob ourselves of a nutritious dinner. No matter how someone would force the issue, no one could eat the food for us. The one who prepared the dinner accomplished their duty, and now the responsibility is on us to eat, or not to eat. It is our power to choose to eat it or to leave it; to be full or starving; to be nourished or famished.

Many wonder why God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil along with the tree of life in Eden *Genesis 2*. He *had* to do that to give a choice. This power to choose is the most valuable gift a Creator could give a created being, because it makes them responsible for their own destiny. It places in our hands the choice to live the way we want—what we are going to receive, what prosperity we will have, and what spiritual, physical, and financial blessings we are going to enjoy.

God gave Adam the power of choice. *Genesis 2:16-17* "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." The trees had to be different so there would be a

choice. If two identical items were placed before us, there would be no choice—but if they were different, a choice is presented. From that day *Genesis 2* to this day, man has had the power to choose.

Later God called Abraham, and began to teach him how to trust in faith. God assembled the twelve tribes of Israel, and He brought them to the land of Canaan—the Promised Land. God said to Joshua *Deuteronomy 30:19* "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you." That was a remarkable position for God to take. He allowed everyone—all the angels and devils; all the good and bad people to be jurors for Him. God said, "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live."

To this very day, we are to make use of our power to choose—the same as Adam was given. It is in our hands, as it was in his hands, whether we enjoy God's health, protection, and blessings, or not. If we would walk in His ways and keep His commandments *Deuteronomy 30:16-18* "God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days."

The worst accusation against God is to say that He is responsible for the troubles and problems we encounter, when we had the power to choose otherwise. *Psalms 103:17* "The mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children." It is a choice and a positive principle that must be accepted and followed, if God's blessings are to be expected.

God portrays His Gospel as a prepared meal to be accepted or rejected by our own

choice. *Matthew 22:4 "I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet."* Servants were sent out to invite people to come and partake, but they refused. They could not be forced, because they had their own freewill choice.

Jesus referred to that same power to choose *Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"* As a result, the Jews are scattered all over the world; without God and without sacrifice; without the Truth and heading for the lake of fire when they leave this world.

Jesus had to tell them *38 "See! Your house is left to you desolate;"* when they could have been living *Psalms 91:1 "in the secret place of the most High"* and abiding *"under the shadow of the Almighty"* where *10 "no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."* Their power of choice was involved, and they chose to live outside of His divine will.

Since they made the *wrong* choice, and until they were ready to make a *right* choice, He had to say *39 "You shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'"* When we are willing to believe and trust God in faith, our prayers will be heard and answered, because the Atonement sacrifice of Christ enables the divine power of God to do great things for us.

The sacrifice of Christ has acquitted us from sin, self, and Satan. It gives us a purchased right to be free from the power of Satan. The healing, deliverance, peace, protection, and provisions have all been paid for in full, by the shed Blood of Christ, and are ready for our ac-

cepting, receiving, and enjoying for free and by faith in God.

The only way for that Atonement right to be nullified, is for us to forfeit that right, and instead to voluntarily accept the oppressions, difficulties, aches, pains, and troubles Satan wants to put on us. Satan must obtain our consent, which he often does when we agree to his suggestions, instead of believing God's promises. *James 4:7 "Submit therefore to God: resist the Devil, and he will flee from you."*

If our sleep is disturbed; if there is no peace in the home, difficulties at work, or oppressed in body, we are to pray: *Dear heavenly Father, Your Son Jesus bore my guilt and pain on the cross; the chastisement of my peace was upon Him, and this situation is disturbing my peace. I claim my Atonement rights for my peace to be restored and the healing to be given.* It is our responsibility to offer that prayer before God. Our power of choice is our weapon against Satan. We can have anxiety or peace; poverty or plenty; healing or oppression.

If we lose sight of the Cross of Calvary, and do not take advantage of the power of God, the devil will have his way and give us his weakness, pain, problems, difficulties, and shortages. Accepting fear has us believing the devil—but it is our power to choose, or refuse, that fear. *2 Timothy 1:7 "God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."*

If Satan can have us see his *dark* side, then an All-powerful God can enable us to see His *bright* side. It is all part of our power of choice to accept peace or conflict; plenty or poverty; harmony or discord; wellness or illness; victory or defeat.

James 4:7 "Be subject, then, to God; stand up against the devil, and he will flee from you; draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to

you." Noah made a right choice, saved himself and his family, and condemned an unbelieving world. The people could all have been saved through the Flood, and have had Noah's protection, but they *Matthew 23:37 "were not willing!"*

Satan does not approach us with horns and a red suit and saying: *I have come to rob you of your Atonement rights*, but he will subtly suggest that we willingly accept his oppressions, weaknesses, disharmony in the home, and quarrels with people—along with worries, troubles, and shortages of every type. Satan puts a chalk mark on our door, and he will visit us at regular intervals. We must be on our guard.

Pleading the Blood of Jesus Christ when Satan comes against us, will free us from a thousand of the devil's snares. Using our power to choose and claiming our Atonement rights by faith in Christ Jesus, will enable us to enjoy all the blessings, benefits, peace, and plenty God wants to give us.

The most powerful weapon we have against Satan is our power of choice. Calvary's Cross gives us a divine right to be exempted from sin, sorrow, self, and Satan; from the slightest pain to a severe attack; from lacking a dollar to a serious debt. *Romans 8:17 "If children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ."* Satan has no right to block five cents from coming in without our consent. Our inexhaustible account is in Heaven, and we may draw it out as we need it—that is our choice!



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