

# GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## THE CHOICE OF LIFE OR DEATH

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**C**ould you imagine living a life where we couldn't make any choices? What kind of life would this be? What are some things in life over which we have no control? Regarding our birth, we were brought into this world unwillingly. Also, our life span is out of our control. Death can come upon us at any given moment. (James 4:13-14; Hebrews 9:27).

These are just a few things that come to mind in our physical lives. How about our spiritual life, do we have a choice where we can spend eternal? Yes!! God gives you and me a choice. We can choose life, which equals heaven or we can choose death which equals hell.

In the Old Testament in Deuteronomy Moses records, “*I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.*” God gave the Israelites two alternatives: either choose life, by keeping His commandments and walking in His statutes or choose death, by turning away from God in serving

other gods.

Today in the New Testament this same God gives us two alternatives. We can choose life or death. Which will you choose?

**The Choice Of Spiritual Life = Heaven.** Jesus says, “*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life*” (John 5: 24).

Friend, look at what Jesus offers to those who are willing to obey Him. They will inherit eternal life and escape eternal death. What will be the result of those who will not obey Him? Instead of inheriting life, we will inherit death.

Also, Jesus says, “*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?*” I can't think of a greater blessing, than knowing that when we pass from this life we will be resurrected to a new life obtaining victory over death. But, these blessings are only for those who will obey the Lord. When you choose not to obey Christ you are choosing not to enjoy life eternally in Heaven. Remember, this is your

choice.

**The Choice Of Spiritual Death = Hell.** One must understand why becoming a Christian is so important. Let's give some examples. John says, “*But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death*” (Revelation 21:8) Look at all who will be spending eternity in hell. Non-Christians will be of the many who will be cast into the lake of fire. Is this the choice you want to make? Paul says in 2Thessalonians 1:8-9, “*In flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.*”

Friend, the decision is ours. God has given us a way to escape hell and to enjoy heaven. Only through obedience of the gospel can this be accomplished. Have you obeyed Him?