

C H O I C E S

Today each of us is presented with tremendous number of choices. Often we may find it difficult to distinguish between that which is good for us and that which is not. It's unfortunate, but even some who are professed believers have been seduced by, seemingly harmless, past-times such as examining their horoscope, having their palms read at the fair or even contacting the "Psychic Connection". Jesus knew that our ability to use natural intuition to judge between the things of the Devil and the things of God would become increasingly difficult. This is why he said that the emissaries of Satan would become so convincing that: ***"...If it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect"*** ***Mat. 24:24***. The Apostle Paul also understood this threat; hence, the encouragement to every believer to progress from being mere babies in the spirit to "full-age" or maturity. He said we are to accomplish this by:

Heb. 5:14 "... reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both and evil."

The Amplified version of the body says that full-grown men are those:

Heb 5:14 "...whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law."

Temptations are a common facet of human life:

I Cor. 10:13 "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

My friend, with every temptation, there is "a way to escape" made available to you by God. The question is not whether an avenue to escape exists – but rather, will it be taken by you? Temptations are not to be entertained. Solomon had a large measure of temptations and he asked this rhetorical question:

Prov. 6:27 "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?"

The operative phrase in the passage is "take fire". When fire presents itself, don't take it into your bosom extinguish the fire. Many pains and unnecessary embarrassments would be avoided, if we would just extinguish the flame before it has an opportunity to kindle our "flesh" (the component of our being that yearns for carnal things, the old-nature).

This is why believers need to watch the places they permit themselves to frequent, "familiar" demon spirits (who know which carnal desires can "turn us on") lurk in the shadows poised for an opportunity to destroy the child of God with may hurtful lusts.

The Apostle Paul said it this way:

II Tim. 2:22 "Flee also youthful lust..."

Beloved, you are mature in Christ; you have grown up in Him; you are "full-grown", you are not ignorant of the devils devices: so the enemy cannot take advantage of you (II Cor. 2:11). But after every thing is said and done the choice is yours!

God Bless You

Pastor Willie G. Nutt

