

The Decision to Stand

Sunday Morning, October 23, 2016

The decision you made to receive Christ as your Savior was your first step in making your decision to stand for Christ! It takes faith to have the courage to publically profess your faith in Christ, likewise it takes faith to have courage to continually stand for Christ.

Taking your stand for Christ is your decision. When we make the decision to stand for God and His Word, we do not try to combine the way of the world with the way of God. This act would be the decision to embrace liberal views that are contrary to the truth of God!

If we make the decision to accept liberal, progressive and modern thinking of society into the church or in to our lives then we have made the decision to embrace beliefs contradictive to the truth of God's Word. This is a decision to become a liberal and compromising Christian. This decision obscures the true identity of the church as God intended it to be.

Every Christian is challenged by the scriptures to make several key decisions:

1. The decision to keep their faith in God and His Word.

(Hebrews 10:38 – 39)

38 Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, my soul has no pleasure in him."

39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

2. To serve God and not the way of the World.

(Matthew 6:24)

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

3. To be consistent in faith and service to God

(I Corinthians 15:58)

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

4. To stand in the power of God rather than the wisdom of man.

(I Corinthians 2:5)

that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

How do you put your decision into action?

- ✝ Accepting all of God's Word as the truth and living it.
- ✝ Serving God as your priority in your life.
- ✝ Not wavering in your stand for God
- ✝ Relying on God's power and wisdom.

Remember that many seek relativity and authority that brings meaning to their lives. God's Word is relative and not simply historical. Truth and not a lie.

The decision to stand on the truth of God's Word reveals its distinctiveness in the world and is not obscured. When people see individual Christians and local churches make the decision to live out the relativeness of scripture and its authority consistently, then people see meaning and purpose in the truth of God!

So as Christians we've made the decision to receive Christ as our Savior. Now have we made the decision to stand firm on God and His Word?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Pastor and Professor during World War II in Nazi Germany, had made the decision to stand on God's Word. The following is quote from his biography. One that challenges us to make our decision!

"Dietrich was continually being called a radical when to his mind, he was merely trying to convey the word of God as purely as he could. Then again, perhaps that was the most radical thing about him."

(pg. 69 in "The Story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer")