

Yes Yes and No No

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Introduction

- We all need encouragement
 - All become faint at heart
 - But what are we evolving into?
- All based on decisions made – I am today the sum total of the decisions made to this point
 - The way to peace is if my yes is yes and our no no.
 - Not by living by sight or feelings of emotion.
 - Not growing wearying well doing **Gal 6:9** NIV *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”*
 - Putting my hand to the plough **Lk 9:62** NLT *“But Jesus told him, “Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God?”*

The basis of good relationships and friendships that heed adjustments, wisdom, purpose is making the right decision.

1 Cor 13

When we fulfill **1 Cor 13** and have love I have left childhood to maturity

Love = purpose, destiny maturity.

Mature enough to realize:

- Whatever I do born of God will be challenged
- I must ward off threats.

I must make God’s reality my own - level mountains **Isa 45:2**, *Listen! It’s the voice of someone shouting, “Clear the way through the wilderness for the Lord! Make a straight highway through the wasteland for our God! 4 Fill in the valleys, and level the mountains and hills. Straighten the curves, and smooth out the rough places. **Isa 40:4&5** “Fill in the valleys, and level the mountains and hills. Straighten the curves, and smooth out the rough places. 5 Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. The Lord has spoken!”*

I must remain in the Spirit like John - **Rev 1:10a** *“On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit...”*

- God’s day is every day we decide for Him and the thief (devil) will try to steal it.
- All decisions made on that basis are eternal

Contested

- Don't expect peace when you have declared war
- What strategy would you have if you were God's enemy?
- I am to use my "Weapons of warfare" **2 Cor 10:4** NLT "We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments."
- Strength is derived from a contest ie Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil before He began His public ministry (**Matt 4:1**)
- I must confront the predator, rule over situations, establish rulership.
- Our Decision Joshua's decision - **Josh 24:15** "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."
- No matter what comes I choose to serve the Lord
- He represents my family and children
- Having done everything I can, I will stand. **Eph 6:13b** "having done all, to stand."
- I am going to get hit.
- But His plans are good. **Jer 29:11** "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."
- He adds no sorrow to His plans. **Pro 10:22** "The blessing of the Lord makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it."
- Making a firm decision enables me to stay on course.
- It means I am not double minded. **Jms 1:5b-8** "Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as **unsettled** as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. 7 Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Their **loyalty is divided** between God and the world, and they are **unstable** in everything they do."
- I will become an anchor.
- I will stay focused.
- I will be rewarded God rewards those that diligently seek Him **Heb 11:6** "And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him."

Storms

- The storm will not move me – storms reveal workmanship
- Storms come - I will deal with the things that came to deal with me.
- I will be on the auto pilot of God's direction.
- Things will not get easier, but I will grow stronger
- When backed into a corner I will call to God.
- Circumstances may not change but I will.

Light and dark

- By spreading light, I will disperse darkness.

Notes:

- Only when a light bulb turned on does it disperse the darkness.
- No such thing as darkness – only the absence of light
- No such thing as defeat – only the absence of victory.
- No such thing as time – only eternity (no past, present or future) (Time only exists in fallen man's world.) (We are more than just two dates in tombstone.)
- What I do prepares me for eternity
- I will become more single minded and therefore more mature

Am I Trustworthy?

Notes:

- When taking out a loan I am checked out
 - When I get married "in sickness in health" will be tested
 - Revival comes to those committed - God wants to build a safe place and reliable person to build on.
 - Bodyguards must have conviction (money no help if dead) to take a bullet for someone.
- Reliable people do not run away when needed.
 - Reliable people elicit response of "I am so glad you are still here."
 - Reliable people are stable people.
 - Reliable people are needed to effect power of God
 - Reliable people do things despite the cost. **Ps 15:4b** "keep their promises even when it hurts." Ps 126:5 "Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy."
 - Reliable people do not depend on how much they know
 - Reliable people recall enduring **Heb 10:32-39** "Think back on those early days when you first learned about Christ. Remember how you remained faithful even though it meant terrible suffering. 33 Sometimes you were exposed to public ridicule and were beaten, and sometimes you helped others who were suffering the same things. 34 You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. You knew there were better things waiting for you that will last forever. 35 So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! 36 Patient endurance is what you need now,

so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised. 37 "For in just a little while, the Coming One will come and not delay. 38 And my righteous ones will live by faith. But I will take no pleasure in anyone who turns away." 39 But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved."

- Reliable people expect attacks once directions are given and there is something is to be achieved.

Most lives are lived without purpose and are governed by projects which are often never completed.

- Reliable people live a life with purpose will always have accomplishments.

Finishing Well

- Reliable people finish what they start.
- Reliable people finish strong.
- Reliable people run the race. **Heb 12:1c** *"...let us run with endurance the race God has set before us"*
- Reliable people give it all they've got (no matter if physical strength or vision)
- Reliable people have learned to use their weapons of warfare
- Reliable people know that thoughts are the battle ground (Fear, suspicions)
- Reliable people fail but are not failures.
- Reliable people listen to the voice of truth (I am still here)
- Reliable people understand God remains faithful even when they are not **Deu 7:9** *"let us run with endurance the race God has set before us"*
- Reliable people can turn the attack and bring redemption.

Get up again

- Reliable people's own spirit believes in them - again.

Note:

- The Spirit is a supercharger - if disconnected it will not work.
- People will only see you the way you see yourself.
- When the Bible talks of a broken heart there is a disconnection with His Spirit

- Reliable people believe they are winners **Jos 23:10** *“Each one of you will put to flight a thousand of the enemy, for the Lord your God fights for you, just as he has promised.”*
- Reliable people never give up. “Give me one more go at it.”
- Reliable people resurrect commitments
- Reliable people make a comeback Prodigal son (**Lk 15:11-32**) – was dead but now alive.
- Reliable people make strong decisions.
- Reliable people realize they are somebody and God does not make nobodies
- Reliable people encourage themselves **Ps 103:2** *“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits”* (David had lost heart)
- Reliable people are “can do” people

Note:

I can do this. God has anointed and appointed me. I will give this another go.

- Reliable people know the future is both scary and good as God has good things in store.
- Reliable people bounce back. **Rom 8:31** *“What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?”*

Promise for N3C

- Resources will be poured into this place.
- Rodney Howard Brown – We will be givers rather than receivers (ie Rodney Howard Browne)
- Help will come - William (son of Billy) Graham. “We are in the air and on our way.”
- God is a good God all the time.
- We take care of commitment and God will take care of money.
- Giants will still be there to overcome (**Josh 24:15c**)

Deu 30:11-20. *“This command I am giving you today is not too difficult for you, and it is not beyond your reach. 12 It is not kept in heaven, so distant that you must ask, ‘Who will go up to heaven and bring it down so we can hear it and obey?’ 13 It is not kept beyond the sea, so far away that you must ask, ‘Who will cross the sea to bring it to us so we can hear it and obey?’ 14 No, the message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it.*

15 “Now listen! Today I am giving you a choice between life and death, between prosperity and disaster. 16 For I command you this day to love the Lord your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways. If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.

17 *“But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and if you are drawn away to serve and worship other gods, 18 then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy.*

19 *“Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! 20 You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This[c] is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”*

His commandments are not grievous.

The Two Commands

Two commandments **Lk 10:27&28** The man answered, *“‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ 28 “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!”*

- Our purpose is to “go into all the world based on those 2 commandments”
- The world will know we love them by reading our DNA and our honest representation.
- People will realize we are not trying to take them captive but to set them free.
- Our reputation will not be built on the Pastor or a good speaker or being seen doing good, but because we love the one who loved us and do for others what has been done for us.
- N3C will be a place people hear about where marriages restored, the rejected helped, and people fed, people healed.
- N3C is built on a rock, and nothing will take it down
- We must meditate on what God says

Note:

Our heart will never lie to us, but our head will.

There are 8,886 promises in the Bible for us