



HOW TO MAKE GOOD DECISIONS

Joshua 9

November 15/16, 2025

I. Satan's Schemes - Craftily: *ormah* - schemes, craftily (CWSBD)

1. _____ and _____ (vv.3-6)

...Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

- 2 Corinthians 11:14 (NASB)

...so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes. - 2 Corinthians 2:11 (NASB)

2. Use lots of _____ (vv.8-10)

...the fame of the LORD (Yahweh) your God (Elohim)... - Josh 9:9 (NASB)

You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. - James 2:19 (NASB)

3. Enemy says _____ (vv. 6&11)

"We are your servants (*ebed*); now then (*attah*), make a covenant with us."

- Joshua 9:11 (NASB)

Now then: *attah* - at this time, now, straightway (OTESD)

II. 5 Questions to Ask Before Big Decisions

1. What does the _____ ?

"Watch yourself that you make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which you are going, or it will become a snare in your midst."

- Exodus 34:12 (NASB95)

Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

- Psalms 119:105 (NASB)

Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship have righteousness and iniquity? or what communion hath light with darkness?

- 2 Corinthians 6:14 (ERV)

...this is the will of God, ...that you abstain from sexual immorality (*pornea*)...

- 1 Thessalonians 4:3 (NASB)

2. Have I _____ about it? (v.14)

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

- James 1:5 (NASB)

3. What else do I _____ ? (v.14)

So the Israelite leaders examined their bread, but they did not consult the LORD. - Joshua 9:14 (NLT)

4. What would change if _____ ? (v.16)

It is a trap for a man to say rashly, "It is holy!" And after the vows to make inquiry. - Proverbs 20:25 (NASB95)

The bigger the decision the _____

5. Do I have _____ about this? (v.7)

The men of Israel said to the Hivites, "Perhaps you are living within our land; how then shall we make a covenant with you?" - Joshua 9:7 (NASB95)

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... - Colossians 3:15 (NASB95)

III. I've Messed Up...Now What????

1. _____ the mistake and _____ in righteousness (vv.17-19)

When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it. - Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 (NIV)

(Hundreds of years later) Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David sought the presence of the LORD. And the LORD said, "It is for Saul and his bloody house, because he put the Gibeonites to death." - 2 Samuel 21:1 (NASB95)

2. Realize failure is an _____ not an _____

3. Allow God to _____

"You will never be released from service (*ebed*) as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God." - Joshua 9:23 (NIV)

ebed: a servant, a slave. Although the most basic concept of this term is that of a slave, slavery in the Bible was not the same as the slavery of modern times. Slaves had rights and protection under the Law (Ex. 21:20). It was also possible for slaves to attain positions of power and honor (Gen. 24:2; 41:12). The people under the king were called his servants (Gen. 21:25); as well as his officers. (CWSBD)

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

- Romans 8:28 (NASB)

(About a thousand years later) Next to them Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah, also made repairs for the official seat of the governor of the province beyond the River. - Nehemiah 3:7 (NASB95)

My _____ today is my _____ tomorrow