

Moment of Decision

- 1 Peter and the apostles answered and said, "We must obey God rather than men." Act.5:2

**COURAGE to face our adversaries, be they rulers, friends, family.
Obeying God is more important than obeying anyone else.**

- 2 And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against his brother and killed him. Genesis 4:8

CURB ANGER. When it is allowed to linger in the mind, it grows restless and must be put to rest or it will be put into action. Eph.4:26-27

- 3 When Cephas came to Antioch, Paul opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. Galatians 2:11

**CONFRONTATION. It never is pleasant, but it sometimes is necessary.
Inappropriate conduct among church leaders can be devastating. 1Tim.5:19-20
Hoping that by putting off addressing the problem, it will go away – only makes matters worse.**

- 4 An angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed. Exodus 3:1-2

WONDERS OF GOD'S HAND. The miracles of the Bible ought to cause us to take a close look at them to discern their purpose. Miracles were not performed indiscriminately, but always for a purpose.

- 5 Joshua said, "choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua.24:15

**WORSHIP. The "gods" (that which is worshiped) of this world are ever present.
What we go after here determines where we go here after.**

- 6 The bystanders were saying to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean too." Mark 14:70

CONFESSING (OWNING UP TO) can be difficult, especially when dire consequences may be the outcome. Jesus owned up to being God's Son, Paul owned up to being a Christian, and both suffered. Lying is not an option. Denying only compounds the problem.

- 7 David said, “Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God.” 1 Samuel 17:34-36

FIGHTING AGAINST THE EVIL FORCES. It never is easy. There always will be the nay-sayers. (“While some are saying it can’t be done, they are often interrupted by someone doing it.”) It’s amazing what can be done for the Lord when one is determined to do it. Paul learned that “through Christ he could do all things.” Phi.4:13, and he encouraged the Philippians to learn this as well. Phi.4:19

- 8 Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” Acts 21:13

BOUND BY COMMITMENT. Determination to complete a task – even if it means hardship and extensive labor. Others are counting on you to fulfill what you said you would do. Promises must be carefully made, and diligently kept. Deuteronomy 23:23

- 9 The Lord said to Jonah, “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city, and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me.” Jonah 1:1-2

YIELDING OUR MINDS. When what the Lord commands doesn’t reflect what we want, we had better change our minds, rather than avoid doing His will. It’s not “I’ll do it, if it pleases me,” but “I’ll do it because God said so.” We are not in a position to veto some of the things God has commanded. Galatians 2:20

- 10 “And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. But Paul chose Silas and departed, being committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord.” Acts 15:39-40

SETTLING DISPUTES. Sometimes opinions of honest Christians are at odds with each other. This should not lead to a falling out. Rather a solution that does not alienate needs to be found. Harboring ill-will affects the one holding it much more than the other person. 1 Corinthians 1:10

- 11 And the woman [Bathsheba] conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, “I am pregnant.” 2 Samuel 11:5

ATTEMPTS TO HIDE SIN. When confronted with the knowledge that a sin “may be found out,” two avenues are open: (1) cover it up with lies and deception (and worse) or (2) face the consequences. 1 John 1:9