

THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW!

Making Decisions God's Way! Part 3

Nehemiah 1-2; Various Scriptures

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Bottom Line:

As believers, we ought to make every decision in humble reliance upon God as He works in and through our lives.

Intro: God's Will - three categories

- **God's sovereign will** - God's comprehensive plan in which He determines or permits everything that happens in the universe.
- **God's moral will** - God's revealed commands in His Word.
- **God's individual will** - God's purposes for our lives as unique creations for His glory.

1. Be consistent in your walk with God NOW!

Nehemiah 1:1-4ff; Proverbs 3:5-6

Major decisions come most easily if:

A. I **ABIDE** in Christ daily, seeking His strength.

John 15:4; Psalm 119:24;105

B. I begin each day in humble **SURRENDER** to God.

John 14:15

C. I **GROW** in my love for Christ through life's challenges.

1 Peter 2:2

2. INVITE God into the process early!

Nehemiah 1:1-11

A. **ASK** the Lord for His wisdom. James 1:5

B. **PRAY** specifically. Nehemiah 1:4-11; Philippians 4:6-7

C. **FAST** privately. Nehemiah 1:4; Matthew 6:17-18

D. **TRUST** expectantly. Nehemiah 1:11; Colossians 3:15

3. Research the FACTS related to your decision. Nehemiah 2:5-9;

Proverbs 13:16; 18:15

4. Use DISCERNMENT in evaluating open and closed doors.

Colossians 4:3; 1 Corinthians 16:9

(end of part 2)

Reminder: A closed door doesn't always mean to abandon your pursuit. An open door doesn't always mean you should charge ahead. Discernment is needed. God sometimes will test our faith when we encounter closed doors (i.e. walls of Jericho) or teach us things in the process.

Open/Closed doors include:

A. **Circumstances beyond your control.**

B. **Your _____.**

C. **Your physical limitations.**

D. **Your responsibilities & _____.** Matt. 5:37

5. Seek _____ from mature godly Christians.

Proverbs 11:14; Proverbs 20:18

6. Be sensitive to the inner _____ of the Holy Spirit. Proverbs 11:14

A. **Through your conscience.** Romans 2:14-15

B. **Through inner** _____. Romans 9:1

C. **Through inner peace (or lack of it).** Colossians 3:15

Conclusion: