

ACCEPTING YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

People who are aimless, disheartened, discouraged, or have given up on life are all around us. One of the saddest things is that all too often these words describe Christians! They “try to live the Christian life” and fail miserably. They allow their behavior to determine their identity. They see the wrong choices they make and then call themselves names like: failure, loser, stupid, sinner, angry person, or liar. Or, they see themselves as addicted to something or someone.

We live in a world that rewards performance. People are promoted at work and given raises commensurate with their performance. Many companies have yearly performance evaluations.

Many sincere people try very hard to gain acceptance from God and others through performance. A believer may say, “I have made some very poor choices, and I know God will love me if I _____.” (Fill in the blank with Christian service, sacrifice, or self-denial.) Instead of allowing our actions to determine our identity, we need to see what God says.

Are you accepted right now, today, just as you are?

People are either functioning **for** acceptance or **from** acceptance. Every day we make choices based on our view of ourselves. To see ourselves as unloved, unrighteous, insecure, unstable, and unacceptable is to be deceived and to live in bondage. Sadly, to believe circumstances, past history, emotions, or what other people say, as opposed to what God says, is the norm for Christians. To no longer live under bondage, you must begin by accepting your righteousness in Christ.

ACCEPT
RIGHT

WRONG CHOICES

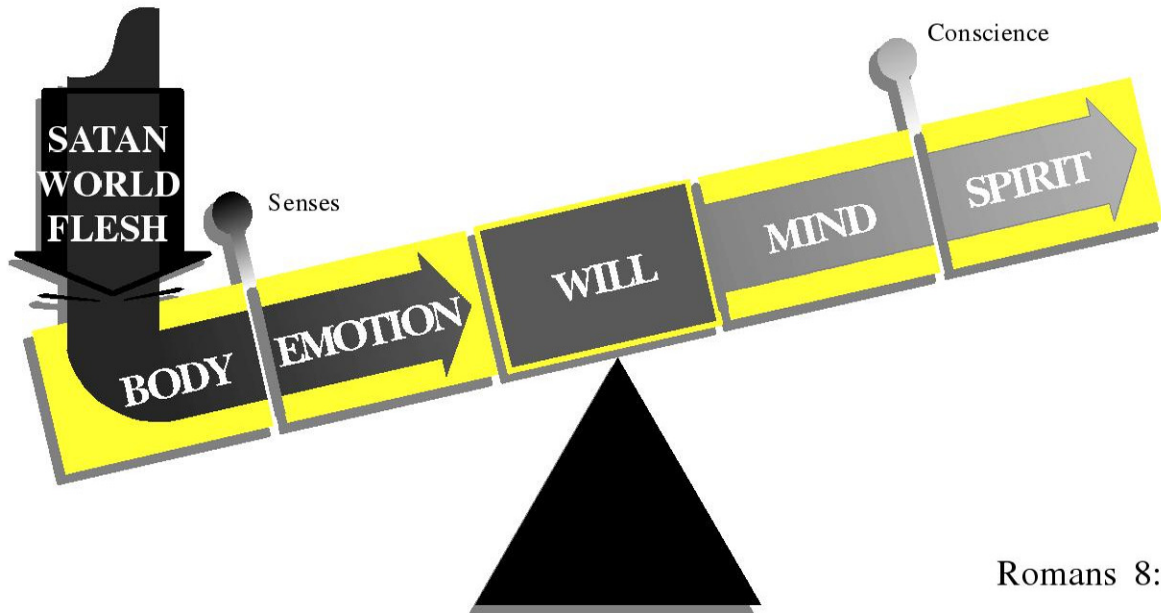


2 Peter 1:9

180-A

NOTES

THE WILL IS THE KEY—WRONG CHOICES



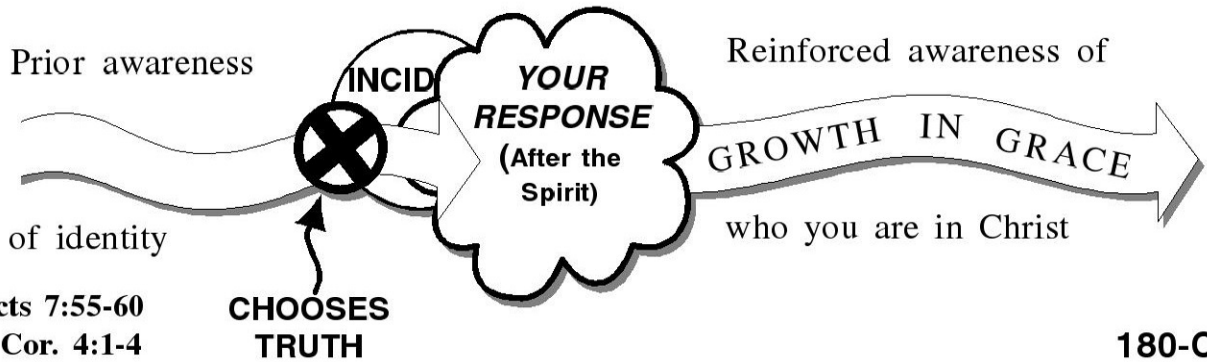
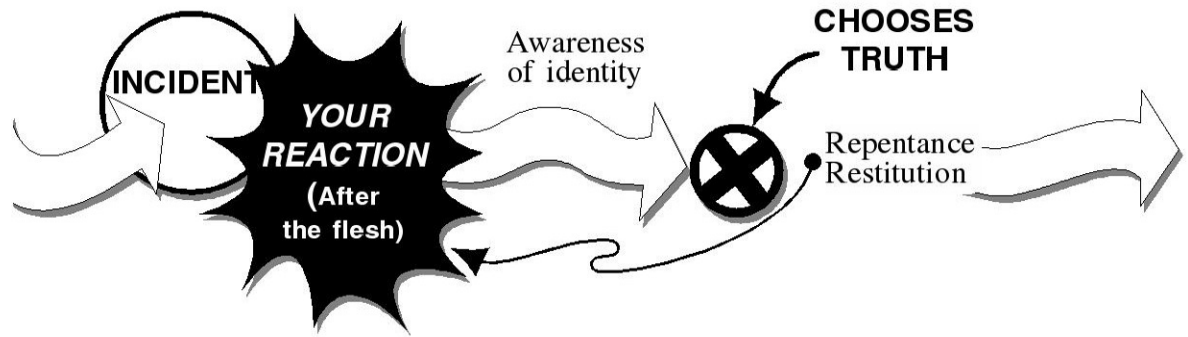
Romans 8:6

Walking after the flesh.

180-B

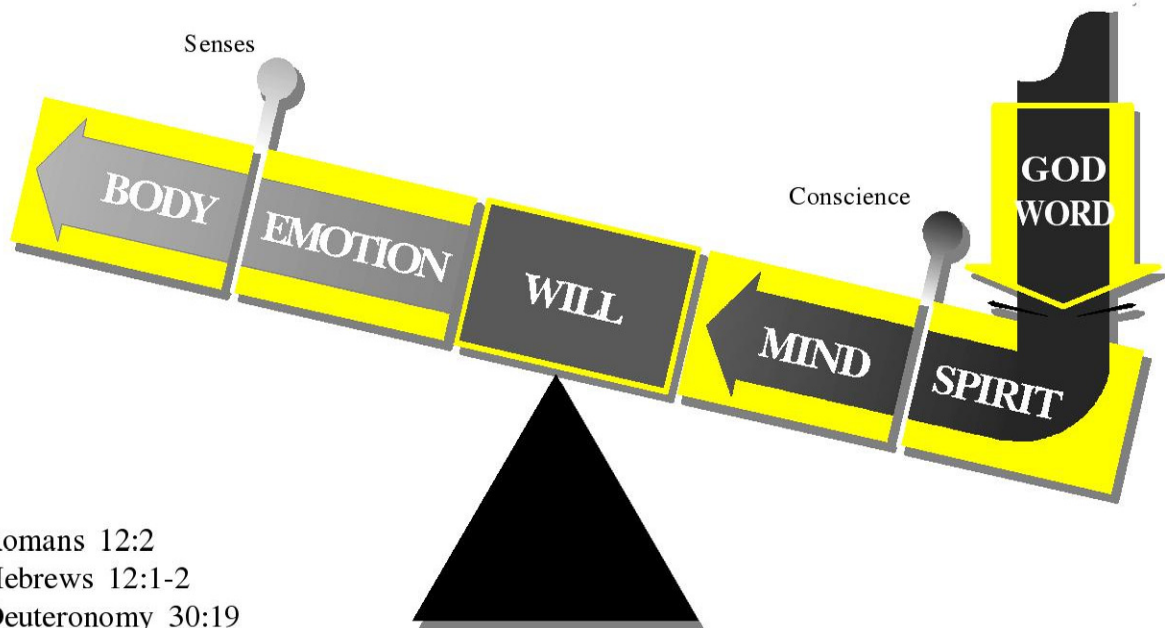
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RIGHT CHOICES



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THE WILL IS THE KEY—RIGHT CHOICES



Romans 12:2
Hebrews 12:1-2
Deuteronomy 30:19

Walking after the Spirit.

180-D

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FAITH IS:

A CHOICE BASED ON GOD'S TRUTH, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT SEEM TO BE TRUE, SO THAT WHAT IS TRUE ABOUT ME ALREADY MAY BECOME TRUE IN MY DAILY EXPERIENCE.

“The assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:1

180-E

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The truest things about me are what God says about me (1 Cor. 4:3-4).

- In Christ I am *a child of God—born of God* (John 1:12-13).
- In Christ I am *being saved by His life* (Romans 5:10).
- In Christ I am *free from condemnation* (Romans 8:1).
- In Christ I am *an heir of God, joint heir with Christ* (Romans 8:17).
- In Christ I am *a saint* (Romans 8:27).
- In Christ I am *accepted* (Romans 15:7).
- In Christ I am *a possessor of the mind of Christ* (1 Corinthians 2:16).
- In Christ I am *a new creature* (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- In Christ I am *the righteousness of God* (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- In Christ I am *blessed with every spiritual blessing* (Ephesians 1:3).
- In Christ I am *adopted as God's child* (Ephesians 1:5).
- In Christ I am *God's workmanship created for good works* (Ephesians 2:10).
- In Christ I am *a member of God's household* (Ephesians 2:19).
- In Christ I am *a citizen of heaven* (Philippians 3:20).
- In Christ I am *holy and blameless and beyond reproach* (Colossians 1:22).
- In Christ I am *complete [perfect]* (Colossians 2:10).
- In Christ I am *alive and forgiven of all my transgressions* (Colossians 2:13).
- In Christ I am *a member of a royal priesthood* (1 Peter 2:9).
- In Christ I am *a partaker of God's divine nature* (2 Peter 1:4).
- In Christ I am *given eternal life today* (1 John 5:11-13).
- In Christ I am *released from my sins* (Revelation 1:5).

RENEWING my mind brings about TRANSFORMATION.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect (Romans 12:2).

- 1. Read a verse listed above in its context and check cross references.**
- 2. Report to God that I believe (adhere to, trust in, rely on) what He says about me is true.**
- 3. Respond to God in prayer by thanking Him for what He did. "Father, I believe You when Your Word says I am a saint. I may not feel like one, but that's what You call me, so I believe it. Thank You!"—1 Thessalonians 5:18**
- 4. Recognize what this verse teaches me about God and praise Him for who He is!**
- 5. Reject my old view of myself. This would include no longer calling myself names like: failure, dummy, stupid, idiot, and loser. Also, I would stop seeing myself as: sinner, alcoholic, lazy, fornicator, homosexual, or liar. —1 Corinthians 6:9-11**
- 6. Rejoice that my mind is being renewed each time I choose the truth.**
- 7. Receive direction for today as a result of this verse. "Lord, I see what You have done and who You are, now what do You want me to do regarding this truth?"**

180-F

REVIEW

- I am totally accepted by Christ.
- Christ has made me righteous. I need to believe this truth regardless of how I feel or how I act.
- This truth frees me from trying to gain acceptance from others. I don't have to live a performance-based-acceptance lifestyle.
- Knowing this truth stops the need to compete and makes decision making easier. I am not trying to prove anything.



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