

Making Great Decisions The Valley of Decision

I. Introduction

- A. Joel 3:14 (NLT) *Thousands upon thousands are waiting in the valley of decision. There the day of the LORD will soon arrive.*
- B. Who are you going to follow?
 - 1. You have a little “altar” in your heart!
- C. Joshua 24:15 (NLT) *“But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD.”*
- D. I Kings 18:21 (NLT) *“How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!”*
- E. Matthew 6:24 (NAS) *“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”*
- F. Joel 1:4 (NLT) *After the cutting locusts finished eating the crops, the swarming locusts took what was left! After them came the hopping locusts, and then the stripping locusts, too!*
 - 1. This great crisis yet to come is what Joel calls “the day of the Lord.”
 - 2. Justice is coming!
- G. Joel 3:2a (NAS) *I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then I will enter into judgment with them there.*
 - 1. “Jehoshaphat” - - “the Lord God is going to judge”
- H. Joel 3:3 (NLT) *They cast lots to decide which of my people would be their slaves. They traded boys to obtain prostitutes and sold girls for enough wine to get drunk.*
- I. Joel 3:13 (NLT) *“Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread the grapes, for the winepress is full. The storage vats are overflowing with the wickedness of these people.”*
- J. Revelation 20:12 (NLT) *I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God’s throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books.*
- K. Psalm 56:8 (NLT) *You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle.*
- L. Joel 3:9-11 (NLT) ⁹*Say to the nations far and wide: “Get ready for war! Call out your best warriors. Let all your fighting men advance for the attack. ¹⁰Hammer your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Train even your weaklings to be warriors. ¹¹Come quickly, all you nations everywhere. Gather together in the valley.”*

M. Joel 3:12 (NLT) *"Let the nations be called to arms. Let them march to the valley of Jehoshaphat. There I, the LORD, will sit to pronounce judgment on them all."*

1. This struggle between good and evil goes on inside every human heart!

N. Joel 3:16 (NLT) *The LORD's voice will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth will shake. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a strong fortress for the people of Israel.*

O. II Corinthians 5:21 (NAS) *He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

1. "I will follow Jesus no matter what. I don't care what anybody else does. I don't care how much it costs. I don't care the difficulty. I will follow Jesus."

II. Conclusion