

# **The Choice is Yours**

## **by Doug Nichols**

Picture a young lady in a car stalled on the railroad tracks. A streamliner is speeding toward her. This young lady is in "Life's Living Option," as William James has said. By this statement, James meant four things:

1. This young lady has a choice to make: to stay or get out of the car.
2. She has the ability to make that choice.
3. There are only two consequences: life if she gets out, death if she stays.
4. While she is making the choice, she is in one of those choices; she is in the car.

As God sees it, all men are in "Life's Living Option" until they receive His Son Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

1. Every man has a choice to make: to receive or reject Christ.
2. He has the God-given ability to accept or reject Christ.
3. The consequence of the choice is either forgiveness or condemnation.
4. While he is making the choice, he is in one of the choices; he is condemned.

Let us examine these points more closely.

### **The Choice**

Every man has a choice to make; the choice is to receive Jesus Christ or to reject Him. "But," some may object, "I do not have to choose. I simply will not choose one way or another." The choice is still there regardless of what you think because Jesus said, "He who is not with me is against me..." (Luke 11:23).

The question is now whether you are with Jesus Christ or against Him. You say, "I am not against Christ." If this is so, then you must be with Him in total agreement with everything that He has said and done. If you immediately declare, "I did not say that," then, my friend, you are not with Christ, but against Him. Is this your choice? Notice that there are no other choices but the two – with Christ or against Him. It must be one of the two. There is no neutrality.

### **The Ability to Choose**

Every man has the ability to choose. We had nothing to do with choosing our parents or our birthplace, but once we are on earth, we soon discover that we have a will and the ability to choose.

With his will every man has the ability to say "yes" or "no" to God. God has offered man a way to accept His provision of salvation; that way, which is the only way, is through His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

It is your decision to make. Without Jesus Christ, you are not a Christian. You have to accept Christ as your Savior to become a true Christian before you can enter heaven. Heaven is a place to which you were invited, but only on God's condition. This condition is by believing in His only begotten Son. "For God so

loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

### **The Consequence**

There is always a consequence to man's choice; the consequence is life or death. "He that believeth in Him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18).

The choice is before you. You have the ability to make this choice. Therefore, looking at the consequences of each choice, which do you choose? Will you choose life or death?

### **You Are In a Choice**

I remind you that while you are choosing, you are already in one of the choices. You are "condemned already," because you have not yet believed in the name of Jesus Christ.

To believe in Jesus Christ, you must recognize yourself as one who has come short of God's standard, admit your helplessness in saving yourself from your sin, repent of your sins and put them away forever, and acknowledge that Jesus is the only One who can deliver you from your sin. Therefore, you will call upon Him to save you.

Jesus is waiting for you to do this so that He might become your Savior. By not saying "yes" to Him, you are saying "no." Before you lay this pamphlet aside, you will have chosen. Say "yes" to Jesus now. "...Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

**If you do not choose, you have already chosen.**