

In both daily life decisions, and under God's sovereignty, there exist some eternal consequences to our actions, as God's Word teaches us. Colossians 3:22-25: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality."

Numbers 20:7-8, 11-12, speaks of the disobedience of Moses to produce water from the rock, with the consequence that:

"Then the Lord said... "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

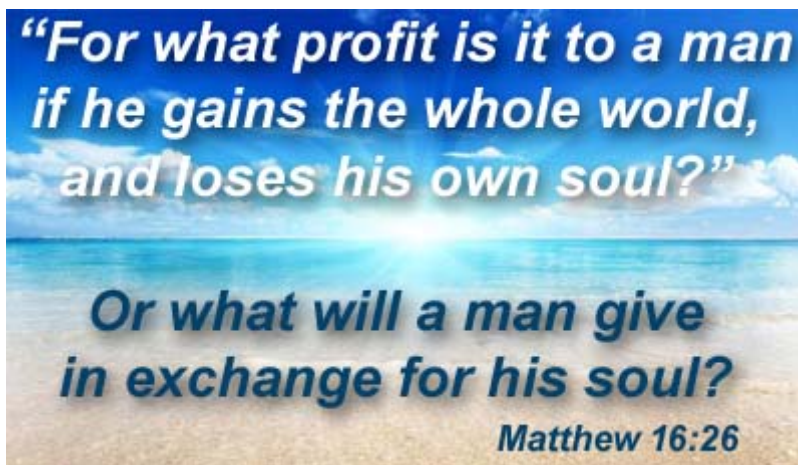
In other words, Moses' impulsive action in disobedience to God resulted in Him not ever entering the Promised Land.

Now, closer to home, have we considered the eternal consequence of Abraham's and Sarah's decision to not trust God that Sarah would be pregnant and give birth to a child, as found in Genesis 16, 17 and 21?

In Sarah directing Abraham to sleep with Hagar, the consequence is even present to this day, after thousands of years!

Do I understand that all my actions, both spiritually and physically, have the power to produce life or death?

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The Word of God clearly states that there are consequences to sin.

Why then must we reject the temptations of the world?

Jeremiah 17:9-10: "The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."

Proverbs 15:3: "The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."

Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way *that seems* right to a man, but its end *is* the way of death."

Proverbs 16:2: "All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits."

Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

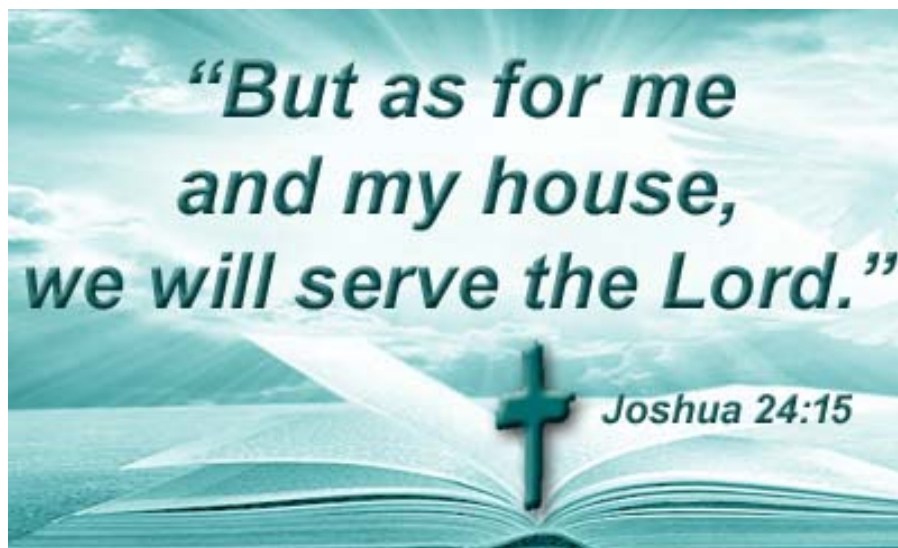
Therefore:

Luke 12:2-3: "There is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops."

Galatians 6:7: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

Do I realize that there are consequences to sin, and as such I must always be on the lookout so I am not deceived by the world?

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A true believer in Christ ought to follow and serve Him as Lord, as the Word says:

Colossians 2:6-7: "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

Why?

2Corinthians 5:10: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

Romans 6:16: "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness?"

Galatians 6:7: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

The reason Jesus said:

Luke 14:28: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish it."

Therefore:

Ephesians 5:1-2: "Be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma."

Is my heart true to the Lord, and do my thoughts and actions live up to my confession of faith in Christ?

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“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

John 3:3

Scripture clearly declare that one must be born again in order to inherit eternal life with God.

How is a person born again?

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Why did Christ have to suffer for us?

2Corinthians 5:21: “For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

How are we sustained in following Christ?

Psalms 37:23-24: “The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the LORD upholds *him with* His hand.”

The reason why:

Hebrews 12:5-7: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?”

Therefore:

Matthew 16:24: “Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”

Am I a born again believer in Christ, determined and focused on following Him?

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How can we live victoriously in Christ?

Colossians 3:1: “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.”

Proverbs 16:3: “Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established.”

Ecclesiastes 12:13: “Fear God and keep His commandments.”

Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

What’s more?

Philippians 4:6-7: “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

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

Why?

Galatians 5:13: “For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

Therefore:

James 4:7: “Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

Is my heart in Christ, or with the world?

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