

As for me and my family...

JOSHUA 24 VERSE 15

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

INFORMATION

The verse for today records events at the end of Joshua's life, a time after Israel conquered the Promised Land. Joshua had led the people into the land of Canaan and had commanded them through many battles. The Lord had given them victory over their enemies and allowed them to occupy the land in safety. Nevertheless, the people had not completely fulfilled God's commandments by completely destroying the people who were in the land. They had joined themselves to some of the Canaanites and were even worshipping some of their gods. Joshua knew all of this.

Joshua challenges the people of Israel to remain steadfast in their service and worship of the Lord God Almighty. God knew that they would not remain faithful to him, (see Deuteronomy 31) and Joshua, no doubt, was well aware of this fact having read Moses' writings. Joshua is making a strong declaration where he will lead his family and still remain faithful to God regardless of what others choose. Beyond this, Joshua also put up a stone memorial to record the people of Israel's promises and his own promise to God.

WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

As born again believers, we have the capacity and responsibility to serve God. It is a sad fact that we often choose not to serve him and, instead, indulge in fleshly lusts and sinful conversations. Let us continually choose to serve and worship the Living God and his Son, Jesus Christ. Let us also build our own memorial in remembrance of our promise and commitment to serve God.

Relevant Passages

1 Samuel 12:24

Only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

Malachi 3:14-18

Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts? 15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered. 16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. 17 And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. 18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Matthew 6:24

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.