

MONDAY**In Sincerity and Truth**

- Now Joshua issues appeal
 - Time to exercise = power of choice = to determine destiny
- Joshua 24:14–15** “Now therefore fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord... choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”
- Will you live as covenant child of Most High
 - Or will you blend into culture around you
 - forfeit your identity / mission / your future?
- Spiritual survival hinges = not on emotion / heritage
 - but on clear / personal / and continual choice
- His appeal echoes thru/out history – power of choice / destiny

1. The Call to Fear / Lord — Reverence Rooted in Reality

- Joshua’s first appeal = people **FEAR** the Lord
 - Not life = perpetual trembling / emotional insecurity
 - Not cowering before Him = in dread
- But holy reverence—trembling awareness of who God truly is
- To fear / Lord = response to = breathtaking holiness of God
 - Who is both = **infinite** in power / **intimate** in mercy
 - To walk humbly in His light = depending on His guidance
- **Proverbs 9:10** “The fear of the Lord = beginning of wisdom”
 - Leads to obedience = Not cold ritualism
 - But a heart that = trembles at His word **Isaiah 66:2**
- It’s what Moses called people to do **Leviticus 19:14 / 25:17**
- What kings of Israel were commanded to uphold **Deut 17:19**

2. Joshua continues: “Serve Him in SINCERITY”

- **Hebrew: *tamim* [tah-MEEM]**— refers to wholeness or integrity
- Word used **Exodus 12:5** = an unblemished lamb
 - Pure / undivided / complete
- No half-hearted devotion /fragmented loyalty
- God longs for = **Heart without Divided Allegiance**
- To serve God **in sincerity** means nothing held back
 - Surrender every chamber of your heart to Him
 - Not just outward actions
 - But your secret thoughts / hidden motives / future plans

Mark 12:30 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart / soul / mind / strength = only possible thru **Romans 5:5**

- Distractions = social media / career ambitions / entertainment / even relationships = can divide our hearts
 - BUSY – Bondage Under Satan’s Yoke
- Many serve God w/lips = while passions/given to another
- Ask yourself: Is there anything in my life that’s competing for the throne of my heart?

3. Joshua commanded Israel also serve God in TRUTH

- **Hebrew: *’emet* [eh-met]** — reliability / firmness / faithfulness
- Divine quality = used to describe / unchanging character of God
- **Exodus 34:6** “The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth”
- To serve God in **TRUTH** = reflect God’s own faithful character
 - in our walk w/ Him = consistency / steadiness
 - Like God = we are to be trustworthy / dependable /
 - and loyal = in covenant relationship

Rev 2:10 “Be faithful until death/ I will give you the crown of life”

**4. Joshua 24:15 appeal culminates /unforgettable ultimatum:
“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve”**

- Choice = hinge of our souls = defines our destiny
- God never forces allegiance = He invites it
 - He woos us w/love = but will not coerce us into fidelity
- Reminds us = **indecision** = is still a decision
 - and it often leads us back to bondage
- To choose God = than one-time declaration
 - Daily / hourly decision to serve Him
 - Thoughts / time / wallets / relationships / ambitions
- Just as /Israel had to choose = between Yahweh/ pagan gods
- We must choose between = narrow road of obedience
 - and broad road of compromise

5. The Heart Response = Why This Matters Today

- World = blurred identities / cultural chaos / shallow spirituality
 - Joshua’s words thunder w/ relevance
- As God’s people = will we **blend in / or stand apart?**
- **To serve God in SINCERITY** = no double life
 - No longer say “God is first” = while living / as if He’s last
- **To serve God in TRUTH** = daily integrity / humble repentance
 - Covenant loyalty = even when no one else is watching
- God’s faithfulness = proven = look at / **CROSS**
- Today = right now = Holy Spirit = is inviting you to choose
 - Not just in emotion = but w/ intention
 - He’s not looking for mere outward compliance
 - but inward **consistency**
 - Life lived in awe of His holiness = grateful for His mercy
- Only reasonable response to His steadfast love

- Whole-hearted = reciprocal love = faithful service
- Choose you this day = whom you will serve
- **Choose Him = Not once / but daily = in sincerity / truth**
- In doing so = you won't lose your identity /you'll find it
 - You'll be more than / one among many = you'll be **His**

CLOSING THOUGHT:

- **Joshua 24:15** *"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*
- Let that be your cry = your stand
- Let your life be *tamim*—undivided **sincerity**
 - and your steps be steady in *'emet*—**truth**