

Dear all, greetings.

Decisions are strange things. Some find it easier to make big than small decisions. Some agonize for weeks over a tiny decision-what color dress to wear to a party, whilst spending hardly any time on what house they wish to buy. Some simply walk in and want it immediately. There is some considerable debate over why we take less time and more important decisions – possibly because we would be overwhelmed with all the pros and cons and so go with our gut or 1<sup>st</sup> instinct on major decisions.

Decision-making isn't always entirely rational! We are influenced by our emotions, desires, the views of our friends and peers, advertising, and other social influences. Social media, influencers, sports and media personalities, all impact our decision-making, whether we admit it or not.

And when decisions are made, there are often 2<sup>nd</sup> thoughts. Was it the wise thing to do? Could we have done better? Did we need to make the decision in the first place? Were we too rash? Too hasty?

2<sup>nd</sup> thoughts – would've, should've, could've.....we learn to live with our decisions, and often the 2<sup>nd</sup> thoughts return to torment us. Which brings us to the most significant decision ever made....

Genesis 2.7 reads as follows: “Then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.” This is the narrative of our creation. As per Col.1.16 and John 1.3 - it is Jesus Christ Himself who is creating man in this narrative from Eden.

Perhaps nothing on planet earth is as incredible as the human body. The more things go wrong with it as we age, the more we marvel at its intricacies. Truly, we are “fearfully and wonderfully made!”

And when Adam's body was made, and was lying there, inert and lifeless, in the middle of this verse, Jesus bent down to breathe in the “breath of life.” That was perhaps the final moment of no return, prior to breathing life into Adam....the biggest decision ever made. A final pause....a final commitment from Jesus.

The thoughts of Jesus at that moment?

These hands would be capable of deeds of great kindness. These feet could walk long distance to serve others. This tongue could be used to sing God's praises. These ears would be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. This heart would delight in God's law. On the other hand....

These feet would kick. These hands would murder. These eyes would lust. This tongue would lie. These ears would close out the voice of conscience. This brain would delight to dwell on evil things. This heart of flesh would become a heart of stone. And not only that....

These feet would kick Him. These hands would beat Him. This tongue would cry ‘crucify’ about Him. These eyes would look daggers at Him. These ears would be closed to His offer of mercy. This heart would be hard as stone to His pleadings.

One day, He would also inhabit a human body like the one before Him...and if that were so, then one day His human body would be lifeless in a cold stone tomb.

So, what to do? To breathe the breath of life into Adam, or not? What to do? Which would be the better option for the universe in which there was already a struggle going on between good and evil, God and Satan, for the watching worlds and angels, fallen and un-fallen? Which would be the better decision for Jesus Himself?

What would you have done?

And Jesus bent down, and in breathing the breath of life into that lifeless body, He gave Himself the kiss of death. “We know live by this, that He laid down His life for us” (1 John 3.16). “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15.13).

2<sup>nd</sup> thoughts anyone? A decision that has profound consequences for us here today, for s God took responsibility for creating us, so He took responsibility for re-creating us, for our salvation...and in the next Worldview, we will turn to the question of our salvation from sin.

Wherever you are, have a wonderful and a blessed Sabbath!

Kind regards,

Conrad.