

the poor man accepted the Word of God; even though he was poor he was rich with God. When the poor man died he became rich in God, he had eternal life with God and Jesus and the saints that went before him. He will have eternal life in Heaven. The rich man was rich in his material things, but he was spiritually poor and when he died he not only lost his earthly possessions, he also lost his Soul. He will experience pain and suffering for eternity in Hell. **(James 1:9-11)**

By just hearing the Word and not doing anything about it will not get anybody to Heaven. For one to hear the Word, believe the Word, repent from your former ways, confess that Christ is the Son of God, and be baptized for the remission of your sins is the only way anyone, including me, will ever be saved from one's sins. See **(James 1:22-25)** and **(James 2:18-24)**. Does this sound like you or me? Do we still refuse to accept the hand of God on how to be saved, to dwell with Him in Heaven? Do we still have a hardened heart that will not let the Word dwell within us so we can be fruitful in spreading the Word of God to those that are dying in their sins? Do we even care? Don't we even know that by just being neutral that will not make us right before God? His

Son died on the cross for you and me to save us from our sins. By doing nothing, you are serving the devil and not God; the faith that saves is the faith that obeys. **(Rom. 6:15-23)** A lot of people today say they believe in God and you know, "congratulations", the devil and his demons believe in God as well, they just aren't obedient toward God. **(James 2:19 and Luke 16:13)** For being saved or lost, all of us will have to stand before the great white throne and Him who is seated on it (God) and we will be judged by what we did and by what we did not do. We will also be judged by what we said and by what we did not say. This is true for the strongest Christian, the luke-warm Christian, and the non-Christian. Yes, we will be held accountable for the choices we have made. **(Revelation 20:11-15)** You see, it all goes back to the choices we made while we were still alive. We have a choice to hear, believe, repent, confess Christ, and be baptized for the remission of our sins or we can go right on living just like nothing ever happened; I don't hear you, you're speaking to the "hand". As always, we have a choice. You better make the right choice because this choice will have serious repercussions on your future. It's your choice.

By Bill Davis

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# Faithful Sayings

## Olsen Park Church of Christ

4700 Andrews Avenue Amarillo, Texas 79106  
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### Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.  
10:20 a.m.  
6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

### Elders:

Ken Ford  
Charles Kelley  
Pat Ledbetter

### Deacons:

Dean Bowers  
Eddie Cook  
Bill Davis  
Pat Goguen  
Neil Ledbetter  
Jeff Nunn  
Fred Perez  
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## My Personal Choice

All of us, from the day we are born to the day we pass away from this life, have to make various choices in our daily lives. As young people, we have to make choices concerning how we are going to live out our daily lives. These choices will include what kind of clothes we are going to wear. Will our clothes be approved by God as to the modesty we should live in or will we wear our clothing like that of the world's standard, lose and free? Will we choose to follow the crowd or will we choose to follow God? As we grow up, we have to make choices regarding the level of education we plan to endeavor; and on the type of job we plan on doing the rest of our lives. One of the many choices we have to make in this life will be what kind of car or truck will I buy. As we get older, we will make choices concerning the type of home we choose to purchase. What is the total cost in purchasing this type of home, and can we afford it? One of the most important choices we will make is that of the person we choose to marry. Through the eyes of the worldly person - as long as they are good looking, rich, and full of life, such as the life of the party, they will do. On the other hand, through the eyes of the Christian, we will look upon the heart. Is this person a Christian or a worldly person? As a Christian, the best choice we can make is that the one we marry will be a dedicated Christian who puts God first in his or her life. Does the one I intend to marry love God

and fear God? Is he or she faithful in all that they do? Does this person have good work ethics? Is his or her language clean and seasoned with God's Word, the Bible? They enjoy life to the fullest as long as it is according to God's Word. The choice we make will be a life-long commitment. Is this someone who will walk with the Lord, always faithful in His service? After we marry, we must consider the responsibilities of raising children. Do we just want our freedom with each other and enjoy life? If we have children, will we make the sacrifices necessary so that they might know the Lord and grow spiritually? You see, all of us as we go through this life have to make hard and easy choices in our daily lives. Some of our choices are easy ones, but others can be pretty tough as we sit down and think about the consequences if we make the wrong choices in this life. Over two thousand years ago, God sent his Son, Jesus, to teach a world lost in sin telling them how to be saved and to be right before God. Today, through God's Word, the Bible, we may know what to do to be saved. Sin has separated us from God. **(Isa. 59:1-2)** Jesus died on the cross so that we might be forgiven and reconciled to God. You see, Jesus died for all mankind taking on the sins of this world, shed His precious blood so we could be part of God's family. Jesus has offered each one of us hope; hope for eternal life in Heaven with God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, and all the saints. Each one of us has a choice to make - the MOST IMPORTANT choice of our lives - "Will I obey God by faith?" Do you believe in God? Have you confessed Christ as the Son of God? Have you repented from your sins and

have you been baptized for the forgiveness of your sins? The choice you make will make the difference between whether your sins still separate you from God, or whether you have been reconciled, raised to walk a new life, and ready to live a life in service to God by faith. If you have become a Christian, are you still daily living your life in service to God?

The choices all of us make will have benefits or consequences. For those of us who are still living upon this earth, let's gain a glimpse of the moment of death through a parable Jesus told. If we make wrong choices while here, what will be the consequences when we die? Look at **Luke 16:19-31**. Now a parable is a story using earthly things with a spiritual meaning. In this parable there was a rich man, like a lot of people in this country, who dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. This sounds like any one of us here today in this country. Most of us live in comfortable homes with nice furniture, appliances, computers, and televisions. Some have at least two or more vehicles, motorcycles, jet skis, and boats to indulge in the pleasures for the weekends. We have plenty of food and we don't often go to bed hungry. As a matter of fact, I would dare say some of us will give our dog the scraps off of the dinner table to feed them so they won't go hungry. But, in the other side of this story we see a beggar named Lazarus, who was covered with sores and longed to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. We don't see a lot of people this poor in our country today because of the prosperity that God has bestowed on this country. If one would go across the border into Mexico, I dare say, you

would see people living in this type of environment. In this parable, the time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment, the rich man looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. So he called to him, "Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire." But Abraham replied, "Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony." Does this sound like a lot of people we know today? Does this sound like you or me? Most of us living in this country know who God and His Son are; and we know all too well that the Bible is the very Word of God. Most of us have been raised in a Christian family or have been in contact with families that were. Some are married to a Christian mate who has tried in vain to show how to become a Christian and make it right before God. Some of us have children who are Christians and they have invited us to go to church with them. They wanted us to pray with them, they wanted us to all

serve the Lord together as a family; but we refused. On the radio, we have heard countless sermons about how to be saved and to go to Heaven. None of us here have any excuse before God that we do not know who God is or who His Son, Jesus, is, or how to be saved. We have had many of those we know from church try to invite us to church, but we refused to go. There are those who, to this day, will not accept the saving grace that God is offering to them; they will not humble themselves to God and be a part of His family. In other words, they will not obey what Jesus taught us in the Bible on salvation, grace, mercy and love. In this world, they have all the comforts of home that their hearts will ever desire; plenty of everything they need. Why do they need to accept what the Bible teaches us today? But then there are those who read or hear what the Bible has to say and they gladly accept God's Word. They obey and are Baptized for the remission of their sins and walk in the newness of life. **(Rom. 6:3-4)** In other words, they follow the teachings of Jesus and walk by faith and not by sight. You see, both of these two men are no different from us today. One had everything his heart desired and the other barely got by. The only difference was