

“THE PLEASURES OF SIN”

INTRODUCTION

A great text in the Bible about Moses' faith, is recorded in Heb. 11:24-27. (READ) In verse 25, Paul makes reference to “THE PLEASURES OF SIN,” which we are using as the title of our lesson at this time. Moses was born to godly parents in a period of time when the Israelites were in bondage in Egypt. His parents had to hide him when he was born to prevent his death. Through a series of events, he ended up being reared by the king's daughter, who used Moses' own mother to help rear the child. Undoubtedly, Jochebed reared Moses to know the Israelites were God's people, and eventually he would have to choose between being an heir to the throne of Egypt, with all its pleasures and treasures, OR identify with the people of God, and have to suffer a lot in so doing. Now, let's examine Moses' decision, as based on Heb. 11:25. (Read)

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, we learn of the POWER OF CHOICE.

Text: “**choosing** rather to suffer with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.”

A. God made mankind as free moral agents, and allows us to choose between right and wrong, between good and evil. Deut. 30:19; Josh. 24:15

1. Adam and Eve exercised this power of choice, choosing to eat the forbidden fruit.
2. Multitudes in Noah's day chose to do evil and corrupted themselves, while Noah chose to do right.

B. We must choose the way we want to go in life. Cf Luke 10:38- 42; Jer. 6:16; Matt. 7:13-14

1. Moses chose to “suffer” rather than to “enjoy” the pleasures and of sin.
2. Moses knew, that in the long run of life, it would be better to choose suffering.

II. 2nd, we learn that SIN IS NOT FOR GOD'S PEOPLE.

TEXT: “choosing to suffer with the **people of God** than to enjoy the pleasures of sin.”

A. Doing the right thing is not always the easiest thing to do, in some environments.

1. It takes courage to do the right thing when the crowd has chosen to do evil. Exo. 23:2
2. Christian young people often have to choose not to use tobacco, drugs and alcohol, and to attend the local dance halls, and to commit fornication.
3. Someone has said, *“Between 2 evils, choose neither; between 2 good things, choose both.”*

B. Suffering often goes with being a Christian. 2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Pet. 4:14-16, 19

III. 3rd, we learn that SINFUL PLEASURE WILL COME TO AN END.

TEXT: “...the pleasures of sin **for a season.**”

A. Sin brings momentary pleasure and satisfaction, but always brings **death**—often both physical and spiritual—separating one from God in this life and in the next life—if not repented of. Jas. 1:15; 1 Tim. 5:6; Isa. 59:1-2

1. Several years ago, a tiger jumped out of its cage and mauled 2 teenagers, and killing another. This was considered a tragedy. Later, a footprint was found TOO near the cage, and an empty whiskey bottle was found in the car of the boy who was killed—leading authorities to believe the boys had been taunting the tiger—ending in death for one of the boys. Prov. 23:29-35
2. Listen to some more words from the wise man Solomon. Read Prov. 7:1-23

B. If we are dead both physically and spiritually, we will experience eternal death, from which there is no more chance of repentance and forgiveness. Heb. 9:27; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; Luke 8:14

V. 5th, we learn that GOD'S REWARD IS BEST.

TEXT: "...he had respect unto the recompense of the **reward.**"

A. "Affliction" (which is temporary) is as BAD, as the glory of God is GOOD. 2 Cor. 4:17-18

B. Eternal life is promised to faithful martyrs. Rev. 2:10-13

1. A brotherhood journal reported the account of a young Christian man who was taunted by some non-Christian boys, try to force him to drink beer—which he refused. In their efforts the Christian boy was killed. QUESTION: "In the judgment Day, who had you rather be—the boy who was killed, or the boys who did the killing??"
2. If we do right, we will be blessed and rewarded for our faithfulness, no matter what happens here. Matt.10:28; Rom. 8:31

VI. 6th, we observe that SIN IS ENJOYABLE.

TEXT: "...the **pleasures** of sin..."

A. The title of our lesson from Heb. 11:25, is, "The Pleasures of Sin."

1. The Modern Literal Translation of scripture reads, the "enjoyment of sin," the basic **reason** for the practice of sin in the first place.
2. Some actually **enjoy** doing things that are sinful. Cf 2 Thess. 2:12
 - a. The Pathological liar has fun in spinning lies, as some kind of a "game" he is playing.
 - b. The use of tobacco and other drugs, and the use of alcohol, raping, committing fornication is because of their enjoyment.
 - c. Even murderers often repeat their crime because they **enjoy** seeing people die.

B. Sins do bring some kind of pleasure, but is only for a moment—temporary—then comes the eternal consequences. Rom. 6:23

CONCLUSION

I. Finally, we learn that **SIN IS DECEITFUL.**

A. Satan makes sin look so good, that it is hard to resist, while forgetting that sin has its wages. Num. 32:23; Rom. 6:21-23; Gal. 6:7-8

B. Moses based HIS "choice" on 2 important factors.

1. 1st, he remembered the **REWARD** the Lord offers. Heb. 11:26
2. 2nd, he kept his eye on the **LORD**--"seeing him who is invisible." v. 27

II. Are you willing to make the right "choice" in your life, RIGHT NOW

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