

FAILURE IS A CHOICE, NOT AN ACCIDENT

4/2/12

'Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up'. – Thomas Edison. Many people desire to succeed in life, but fail. This is often the result of giving in to pressure or weakness, because there is no guarantee of success in this world. However, God has actually assured us that we cannot fail... unless we chose to. How is this possible? After all, that is what the Gospel is all about. The only way to fail God's promises, is by choosing to reject them.

Adam and Eve. The first example of failure by choice.

GEN 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **thou shalt not eat of it:** for in the day that thou eatest thereof **thou shalt surely die.** *Death was a choice... death is the ultimate failure.*

1COR 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. *Life or death... yours to choose.*

Never allow yourself to be deceived into thinking there are other options... God's choice is always yours.

ROM 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye **yield yourselves** servants to obey (*your choice*), his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Why fail (die)... Choose ye life.

EZE 33:11 Say unto them, *As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? God has made his choice... he wants you to live; not die.*

We have assurance of eternal life.

1JOH 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may **know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. **14** And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

Overcoming, is also a choice we make.

HEB 10:22 Let us **draw near** (*choice*) with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith **without wavering;** (*choice*) (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

24 And let us **consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:** (*choice*)

25 Not forsaking the **assembling of ourselves together**, as the manner of some *is;* (*choice*) but exhorting *one another:* and so **much the more**, as ye see **the day approaching.** (*choice*)

26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there **remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,** (*choice*)

27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Your offering of time and financial support is also a choice.

2COR 9:6 But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. *Many confuse their own ability with God's blessing... be generous.*

7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give;* not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. *The riches of this world can quickly vanish, but that which is of God remains.*

Resolving conflicts... forgiveness is a choice.

MAT 6:14 For **if ye forgive** men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also **forgive you:**

15 But if ye **forgive not** men their trespasses, **neither** will your Father **forgive your trespasses.**

All choices regardless of wealth, time ability or health

God never picked us to start the race... he chose us to finish it.

1COR 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a **race** run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

Repentance is a choice... so is baptism and so is receiving and walking in the Spirit. God has made his choice... let's keep making ours. Remember... Failure is also a choice.