

**HARD SAYINGS REVEAL EASY SOLUTIONS 23/9/18**

*Lack of action is simply the gap between motivation and commitment. We all get good ideas and many have wonderful moments of clarity and purpose, but all that needs to be turned into actions. When it comes to matters of scripture and servitude with God, the answers are already there and are actually easier to perform than most realize. These notes take us through a step by step guide to turn hard saying into easy solutions. **JER 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an **expected end**. God reminds us that he is on our side and wants to support us.*

***First choice... do you want to live or die? DEU 30:19** I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: **therefore choose life**, that both thou and thy seed may live: *Choosing to live is the first step, but acting on God's directions is the only action that works.**

***Jesus has the solution, but we need to turn hard sayings into faith and faith into action? JOH 6:55** For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. **56** He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. & **59** These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. **60** Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard *this*, said, **This is an hard saying; who can hear it?** & **63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life. & **66** From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and **walked no more** with him.*

***Jesus explains that what appears to be hard is actually quite easy, if we act in faith. MAT 11:29** Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. **30** For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light. *Natural thinking limits God's power, but faithful actions work.**

***Personal integrity leads to useful, Godly servitude... consider Daniel's credibility. DAN 5:12** Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing (*revealing*) of **hard sentences**, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation. *Daniel revealed God's truths.**

***Lack of action is what makes Christian living much harder than it needs to be. HEB 5:11** Of whom we have many things to say, and **hard to be uttered**, seeing ye are **dull of hearing**. **12** For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have **need of milk** (*being served and supported*), and not of **strong meat** (*serving and supporting others*). *Knowing something and doing it are two different topics. This rebuke is based on their lack of action, not on their lack of scriptural knowledge. Their self awareness of their shortcomings was a huge problem, hindering the church, hindering God and the potential salvation of large numbers of people. Sometimes when we point these things out... people no longer walk in this truth and leave. Hard sayings have a spiritual purpose, quite often separating the hearers from the doers.**

***When knowledge becomes pleasant. PRO 2:10** When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and **knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul**; **11** Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: **12** To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; *When you actually desire to do something in faith, it is no longer hard... fighting against the direction of the spirit through ignorance, unbelief or fear is always hard. Once practiced the hardness vanished and confidence replaces it.**

***Hard sayings vary from person to person and are indicators of the direction for our next steps. HEB 12:11** Now **no chastening** for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of **righteousness** unto them which are exercised thereby. *It is easier to obey God than fight.**

***Even basic requirements can be hard for some. HEB 10:23** Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) **24** And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. **26** For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, *What more can God do to motivate us, than simply spell out his requirements... whether, prayer, reading, witnessing, etc.?**

***Easy, loving conclusion. JOH 15:10** If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. **11** These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, **and that your joy might be full**. **12** This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. *God's love is a fruit of the spirit, developing more & more as we serve him.**