

The Crossroads of Life

Text: Psalm 25:1-12

Introduction:

1. “When you come to a fork in the road, take it.” (Yogi Berra)
2. We all stand at **crossroads** during our lives: The paths we choose have life-changing effects (“**Road Less Traveled**”, Robert Frost). **Psalm 25:4-5**
3. **Choices: Joshua 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21; Jeremiah 6:16; 7:23-24; Matthew 7:13-14.**
 - a. We become a **product** of **our decisions**: Our **choices** shape and mold us.
 - b. **Choices** of service; who or what we will follow; values; goals...
 - c. Our **choices** have eternal consequences.
4. **Proverbs 4:26-27** – Ponder the path of your feet; avoid evil; choose right.



I. THE PATHS BEFORE US – Jeremiah 6:16 (42:3).

- A. **The Highway of Holiness – Isaiah 35:8** (difficult way, **Matthew 7:14**).
 1. Path of life – **Psalm 16:11**.
 2. Paths of righteousness – **Psalm 23:3**.
 3. Paths of the Lord – **Psalm 25:10**.
 4. Path of God’s commandments – **Psalm 119:35**.
 5. Every good path – **Proverbs 2:9**.
 6. The way of goodness – **Proverbs 2:20**.
 7. Right paths, **Proverbs 4:11**.
 8. He will teach us His ways...walk in His paths – **Isaiah 2:3**.
 9. The way of the just is uprightness – **Isaiah 26:7**.
 10. The way of peace – **Isaiah 59:8**.
 11. **Choice**: Make straight paths for your feet – **Hebrews. 12:13**.
- B. **The Way of Destruction – Matthew 7:13** (broad way).
 1. The path of sinners – **Psalm 1:1**.
 2. Deceitful paths – **Proverbs 2:15**.
 3. The way of the fool – **Proverbs 12:15**.
 4. The way of the unfaithful (transgressor) – **Proverbs 13:15**.
 5. The way that seems right – **Proverbs 14:12**.
 6. The way of the wicked – **Proverbs 15:9**.
 7. **Choice**: You should **no longer walk this path**, **Ephesians 4:17**.

II. SOME CROSSROADS OF LIFE.

- A. **Will You Obey the Gospel and Become a Christian?** (**2 Corinthians 6:2**)
 1. **Do you know you are a sinner? Do you want to be saved? Do you know only Jesus can save you?**
 2. Which path will you take? – **Acts 2:36-38, 41; 4:4; 8:35-39; or... Acts 13:45; 17:32**
- B. **Will We Live in Sin or Above Sin?** – **Ephesians 2:1-2; Romans 6:1-2, 4-6**

1. Moral crossroads: **1 Peter 4:1-4.**
 2. Will we be a friend of the world, or God? **James 4:4**
 3. Will we live under punishment or in eternal life? **2 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Peter 2:9-12**
- C. ***Will We Pay the Price it Costs to be a Disciple of Jesus?* Luke 14:25-33**
1. Will we choose truth of the gospel before: Loved ones? Personal advantage? Promotion at work? Pleasure? Leisure? Favor of others?
 2. Self-denial at great personal sacrifice? – **Ezra 10:1-4**
 - a) *Repent of every sin!* (*Corinthian church at crossroads:* **2 Corinthians 2:9; 7:9-11**)
- D. ***Will You Remember God when you are Young?* Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1**
1. Your clothing, entertainment, respect for parents and elders?
 2. Choosing your career: Will you be a faithful Christian and promote righteousness?
 3. In the person you will date and marry? **1 Corinthians 15:33-34; Matthew 19:6**
- E. ***Will I Endure to the End?* Matthew 10:22; Hebrews 10:36 (12:1); 2 Timothy 4:7-8**
1. Don't rest on past accomplishments to insure your present and future spiritual state.
 2. When I get feeble in mind and body will I still do what I can? (**2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Psalm 71:16) Titus 2:2-3**

Conclusion:

1. **Psalm 139:23-24:** *Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:
And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*
2. Jesus is the Way who guides our feet on the way of peace, light and salvation – **John 14:6 (Luke 1:79; John 8:12).**
3. Which road will you take?

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there

Had worn them really about the same,

**And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.**

**I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I--
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference**

...Robert Frost