

Sermon Notes
Did I Do That? – 1Cor 10:23
September 7, 2025

I. Introduction

The greatest day in your life and mine is when we take total responsibility for our attitudes and actions. That's the day we truly grow up and mature spiritually. John Maxwell

- a. one word hint for title of this message... Urkel... those over 40 will know... often blame others for our actions... don't like being responsible... bible is *pro-responsibility*...
Deut 30:15-19... "set before you life and prosperity... death and adversity... choose..."
Prov 18:21... "words kill, words give life... either poison or fruit... you choose..."
Isa 3:10-11... "righteous will eat fruit of their labor... woe to wicked, it will go badly..."
Eze 18:20... "one who sins will die... child shall not bear the guilt of the father..."
1Cor 6:12... "everything is permissible for me... but not everything is beneficial..."
Gal 6:5-8... "we are each responsible for our own conduct... don't be misled, God is not mocked... you will always harvest what you plant... sow to flesh, reap death... sow to Spirit, reap life..."
2Thess 3:10-11... "those unwilling to work will not eat... some are idle busybodies..."
- b. often struggle knowing the will of God... is it giving and taking away... is it evil or destruction... how do we know it's always good... very simple, His word... pray...
Job 1:21... "the Lord gives and takes away... blessed be the name of the Lord..."
Job 42:3-5 (Mark 8:29)... "I was talking about things I knew nothing about... things far too wonderful for me... I had only heard about You before... now I have seen You with my own eyes..."
Rom 11:28-29... "regarding the Gospel... God's gracious gifts are irrevocable..."
charisma... *grace; faith, knowledge, holiness, virtue; pardon of sin; eternal salvation*...
1Thess 5:18... "give thanks in everything... this is God's will for you in Christ..."
thelema... *the purpose of God to bless mankind thru Christ; what God wishes to be done*...
2Pet 3:9... "God is patient... not wanting any to perish... but all to come to repentance..."
3John 2... "wish above all things... you prosper, be in good health... just as your soul..."

II. Did I Do That?

- a. God operates in the realm of life, not death... heart is always to save, not destroy... how do we explain tragedy and suffering... do we have any responsibility for what happens...
Mark 7:1-13... "you make the Word of God of no effect thru your tradition..."
Rom 4:14... "if promise is only for those who obey law... faith is useless... promise of no effect..."
Gal 5:4... "trying to be justified by law... Christ is of no effect... fallen from grace..."
- b. time to prepare for tragedy is long before tragedy hits... if you're already confused about how good God is... unlikely to clear up when devil tries to steal, kill, and destroy...
Gen 41:47-54... "stored up grain in such abundance... famine began... they had food..."
1Kings 9:15-19... "rebuilt cities... built supply centers... storage for chariots, cavalry..."
Psa 91:4... "His faithful promises are your armor and protection..."
John 10:10... "devil comes to steal, kill, destroy... Jesus came to bring abundant life..."
- c. many pastors and Christians wrongly believe God controls everything... and if He is in control... then He is the One who either causes or allows bad things to happen...
Luke 9:56... "Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives... but to save them..."
John 3:16-18... "God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it..."
1Tim 1:12-16... "Jesus came into world to keep safe, rescue from danger, heal, deliver sinners..."
- d. did God bring the storm... are you sure... will my kids love me more if I beat, abuse and

scare them... fear never leads to love... never draws us closer... do you want to draw near a God who causes fear and panic to gain trust... tempts death to teach you obedience...
Mark 8:23-27... "violent storm... boat swamped... Lord, save us, we're going to die... why are you fearful... then He got up and rebuked the winds and sea... and there was great calm..."
2Tim 1:7... "God has not given us a spirit of fear... but one of power, love, sound mind..."
Heb 4:16... "approach throne of grace with boldness... receive mercy and grace to help..."
James 1:13... "God is never tempted to do wrong (evil, injurious, troublesome, destructive)..."
peirazo... *make trial or test for the purpose of testing one's faith, virtue, character*...

- e. did you know there are things God cannot do...
Cannot lie - Num 23:19... "God is not a man who lies... nor does He speak and not act..."
Cannot take back His word - Psa 89:34... "not violate covenant or change what My lips have said..."
Cannot deny Himself - 2Tim 2:13... "man faithless, He remains faithful... cannot deny Himself..."
Cannot remember sins - Heb 8:12... "I will never again remember your sins..."
Cannot tempt anyone - James 1:13... "God never tempts anyone..."
Cannot change - James 1:17... "He never changes..."
- f. God even limits what He knows... to protect our personal freedom and choice...
Gen 6:5-6... "man thought nothing but evil... God regretted He made man... was deeply grieved..."
Jer 19:5... "built high places to Baal... which I didn't speak... never came into My mind..."
- g. *if God is good, why do bad things happen*... haunted philosophers and pastors for centuries... often conclude, if there is evil, God can't be good... how about a different conclusion... because of evil, we are convinced God is even better than we thought...
Exo 34:6... "God... merciful and gracious... patient... abounding in goodness and truth..."
Psa 23:6... "surely goodness and mercy will hunt me down all the days of my life..."
Psa 27:13... "I would have lost heart... unless I believed I would see the goodness of the Lord..."
Psa 33:5... "the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord..."
Psa 107:8-9... "give thanks for His goodness... He fills the hungry with good things..."
Psa 119:68... "You are good and You do what is good..."
Psa 145:9... "the Lord is good to everyone..."
Mark 10:18... "why do you call Me good... no one is good but God alone..."
- h. world where no evil exists is absent from choice... love always gives a choice... God lovingly, intentionally gave up control in order to allow us to exercise free will...
Gen 2-3... "free to eat from any tree, except tree of knowledge... took fruit and ate..."
Psa 115:16... "the heavens are the Lord's... the earth He has given to men..."
Isa 55:6-9... "seek the Lord... let wicked/sinful abandon their ways... let him return..."
John 7:17... "anyone who chooses to do the will of God..."
1Cor 10:23-24... "everything is permissible, not everything is beneficial... everything is permissible, not everything builds up... don't seek your own good, but good of others..."
Gal 5:1... "it is for freedom that Christ set us free..."
- i. often blame God when things go wrong... several possible causes... God, devil, me, someone else, nature/creation... blaming God eliminates personal responsibility...
Prov 23:7... "as a man thinks in his heart, so is he..."
Eph 4:18... "excluded from the life of God by ignorance and a hard heart..."
- j. God lets you make choices... *did I do that, yep*... living by law is a bad choice... living by Spirit is a good one... devil can't make you do anything... final authority is yours... pray...
Rom 7:5-6... "law produces evil, sinful deeds resulting in death... no longer captive to it..."
Rom 8:5-7... "sinful nature leads to death... following the Spirit leads to life and peace..."
1John 4:4... "Spirit who lives in you is greater than spirit who lives in the world..."
1John 5... "every child of God defeats this evil world... victory thru faith... by believing in Jesus..."