

**June 7, 2020**  
***The Beginning of Wise Decision is the Fear of the Lord***  
**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Peace Treaty of Trianon**

Scripture reading: Proverbs 1:1-7

Text: “*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge*” (Proverbs 1:7).

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There are many decisions that we face in our lives in which the answers are not that obvious and we have multiple choices in a certain situation. There are those who survive this life by not making decisions. They try to adjust to their life circumstances or let others to make decisions on their behalf. They think that it is easier and they don't have to undertake responsibility. However, not making a decision is a decision. If you let yourself float with life happenings, that is a decision, too. Therefore it is very important to gain the skills to live wisely and make good decisions in our lives. **Making good decisions starts with making good decisions.** That may sound obvious, but it is not a given and not natural. You know, it's a lot easier to make the right decision up front than to go back and clean up the mess after.

On June 4<sup>th</sup> of 1920 a decision was made at the Grand Trianon Palace in Versailles, France that resulted serious consequences when the Peace Treaty of Trianon was signed. The territory and population of Hungary were reduced by about two thirds. It was a tremendous loss from which the people of Hungary could not recover. It all was the consequence of the series of wrong and not wise decisions.

Unfortunately we cannot change the past. However, we can do certain things in order to make good and wise decisions that will have a positive effect on the future.

What determines whether a person makes good decisions? James Keith Loudon, American industrial engineer, business executive, and management author considers the question: “*What kind of person is best able to involve others and himself in good decision making?*” Loudon offers what he believes are seven qualities regarding decision making:

- #1. The ability to look ahead and see what is coming – foresight.
- #2. Steadiness, with patience and persistence *even if you have to wait*, and courage *when it is time to act*.
- #3. A buoyant spirit *it is being ready to act when times comes*, that generates confidence.

- #4. Ingeniousness, the ability to solve problems soundly yet creatively.
- #5. The ability to help others. (Helping others)
- #6. Righteousness, the willingness to do the right thing and speak the truth.
- #7. Personal morality of a quality that commands the respect of others.<sup>1</sup>

These are insightful principals and characteristics which can result good decisions in a person's life. However, in order to make the best decision we definitely do need one thing. In Proverbs chapter 1 verse 7 we find this, "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge.*" What does "fear of the Lord" mean? First it is important to see it clearly that fearing the Lord does not mean to be afraid of God, but it means to be in awe of His holiness, to give Him complete reverence, and to honor Him as the *God* of great glory, and to walk in obedience with Him. Proverbs also teaches and shows us who God is and who we are. When we fear the Lord and follow His will we will have Christ as our refuge, and we may know that we can always turn to Him, and we take Jesus' teaching seriously in our lives. We appreciate Him more than anyone or anything else. "*Fearing God*" also means that we realize we live by His grace, and we say "yes" to His will not just when we begin to walk with Him, but every day in our lives, and not just when things are relatively good, but when we go through trials and difficulties. I heard this saying a couple of years ago: **"Good decisions are always start by standing on the side of God, that you fear Him."**

Oswald Chambers, the Scottish evangelist, Christian author, and teacher once said, "*The remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else.*"<sup>2</sup>

As we gain more knowledge and experience in life, and as we come to the One who is ultimately the source of all wisdom, our Lord Jesus Christ, we will really gain the skill to live well according to the purposes and calling of God's will.

May the Lord God help you to live a life that is guided by His wisdom, and you make good decisions by Christ. My God bless all of us in it. Amen.

Yours in Christ,  
Rt. Rev. Dr. Csaba Krasznai  
Pastor

**Source:**

<sup>1</sup>James Keith Loudon: Management Course for Presidents, pp.10-11

<sup>2</sup>Denise George: Weathering the Storms, p. 44