

Introduction

Verse 15 in this lesson is a very prominent verse. Several people have a plaque with it on it hanging in their house. When we see this verse we have to be inspired and challenged to a very strong commitment to our Lord.

1. Challenged by The . . Example Set. Josh. 24:14-15

Joshua stated exactly what the Lord expected of people who want to be His people. Interestingly the word, “serve” is used 12 times in this chapter. Joshua gave an announcement about his personal commitment and included his children. I like a leader who sets that kind of an example. All of us who have a place of leadership need to give a personal example of commitment. Some would not be able to include their children because they do not follow the Lord. That is sad. He announced what he and his family would worship the Lord.

2. Challenged and The . . Peoples Reflection. Josh. 24:16-18

The people said they would not abandon the Lord. They were stating their commitment to follow God and reported several reasons for their service to God. While doing this they told of several things God had already done for them. All of us could do that and it probably would strengthen us in our stand to serve the Lord. The vast majority of people have trouble being as committed as they want to be. That is sad but true. All of us can use better examples of the Christian life and we certainly could give a better example. It helps to have good Christian friends who can nudge us in our dedication.

3. Challenged with A . . Somber Warning for the Future. Josh. 24:19-20

Joshua warned the people about being inconsistent in their service and faithfulness in worshipping God. Most of us dislike that kind of an example. Joshua made it very clear that the Lord was not going to respect any inconsistent worship style. He also told them the Lord was not going to be lenient with people who abandon their worship of Him and serve another “so called god.” He told them of this because our God is a holy and jealous God. His jealousy is for our own good even if we don’t understand it at the time.

4. Challenged and A . . Public Declaration. Josh. 24:21-28

Joshua explained what God expected from people who want to be His people. These people expressed a desire to be committed to the Lord and be consistent in their worship of Him. Joshua told them he would establish an ordinance for them, record it, and put it in the book of the law of God. Then erect a large stone as a witness to the people and set it under a large oak tree next to the sanctuary. Now having *Challenged* the people he sent them to their own inheritance given by God. Amen? Amen! (To check for a more detailed outline. Go to: <http://www.preachhim.org/SundaySchoolIndex.html>)