

Pastor Ron Case  
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## **“Captivity Choice”**

**“And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve...” (Joshua 24:15)**

### **The Captivity Theme**

**Genesis 15:13** – “Then the LORD said to (*Abraham*), ‘Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years.’” (NIV)

**1 Kings 8:46** – “If they sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you are angry with them and give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away captive to the land of the enemy, far off or near...”

### **The Height of Delusion**

**John 8:33-36** – (33) “They answered (*Jesus*), ‘We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’ (34) Jesus answered them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. (35) The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. (36) So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.’”

**Revelation 18:7** – “As she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, ‘I sit as a queen, I am no widow, and mourning I shall never see.’”

### **The Conquering Christ**

**Ephesians 4:7-8** – (7) “But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. (8) Therefore He says: ‘When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.’” (NKJV)

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** – (19) “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, (20) for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

**1 Corinthians 7:22-23** – (22) “For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. (23) You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men.”

## **The Choice:**

### **Captivity to Sin, Stupid Stubbornness & Satan...**

**Proverbs 11:6** – “The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the treacherous are taken captive by their lust.”

**Proverbs 5:22-23** – (22) “The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. (23) He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.” (NIV)

**2 Timothy 2:26** – “...and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.” (NIV)

### **...Or Captivity to Jesus**

**Psalms 2:11-12** – (11) “Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. (12) Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.”

**Romans 6:16-18** – (16) “Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? (17) But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, (18) and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.”

**Galatians 5:1** – “For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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