

### 3. DECLARE YOUR \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 14-24)

**Quote:** "Joshua was no abstract, unconcerned homilist. He preached for decisions. He was earnest. He preached, as one of the great Puritan preachers once described himself, 'as a dying man to dying men.'—**James Montgomery Boice**

A. Whole-hearted \_\_\_\_\_ is the only acceptable response to God's goodness

*"And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, 13 To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?" (Deuteronomy 10:12-13)*

B. Today is the moment of decision

**Quote:** "Our lives are fashioned by our choices. First we make our choices. Then our choices make us."—**Anne Frank**

#### THE DECISION TO SERVE THE LORD IS...

1. Immediate: "choose you this day"
2. Inescapable: neutrality is not an option
3. Exclusive: no divided loyalty, no rival gods
4. Individual: "as for me and my house"
5. Consequential: this choice shapes everything that follows

**Quote:** "More than anything else, He is the God Who loves so much that He seeks the same whole-hearted love and devotion in return."—**Trent C. Butler**

C. Faithful \_\_\_\_\_ is only possible in Christ

**Quote:** "History is a vast early warning system."—**Norman Cousins**

*"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Romans 8:3-4)*

### CONCLUSION



#### UPCOMING EVENTS



##### **Vision Sunday**

January 11 | 11 AM & 5 PM

On this day, we ask God for a new vision—a vision for bringing salvation through Christ to our world.



##### **Winter Revival**

January 25 | 9 or 11 AM & 5 PM

January 26-28 | 7 PM

Join us for these four days of spiritual renewal.



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# Overcoming COMPLACENCY

LARRY CHAPPELL | JANUARY 4, 2026

## Text: Joshua 24:1-24

*"And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods. 3 And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. 4 And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. 5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out. 6 And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea. 7 And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season. 8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you. 9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you: 10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he blessed you still: so I delivered you out of his hand. 11 And ye went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho: and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I delivered them into your hand. 12 And I sent the hornet before you, which drove them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow. 13 And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat. 14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. 15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. 16 And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; 17 For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: 18 And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God. 19 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. 20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good. 21 And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD. 22 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses. 23 Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel. 24 And the people said unto Joshua, The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey." (Joshua 24:1-24)*

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. GATHER WITH \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1-2)

**Quote:** "We must never think our work for God done till our life is done; and if he lengthen out our days beyond what we thought, we must conclude it is because he has some further service for us to do."—**Matthew Henry**

*"Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused: and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together." (Acts 19:32)*

#### A. The people gathered in \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1)

*"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)*

#### B. They gathered with \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2)

*"Gather the people together, men and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the Lord your God, and observe to do all the words of this law:" (Deuteronomy 31:12)*

### 2. CORRECT YOUR \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2-13)

#### A. Don't lose sight of what God has \_\_\_\_\_

#### JOSHUA'S HISTORICAL REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

1. The Grace of God (v. 2-3)
2. The Timing of His Plans (v. 3)
3. The Mystery of His Ways (v. 4)
4. His Sovereignty Over All (v. 10)
5. Blessings of God (v. 13)

*"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." (Psalm 103:2)*

*"Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance." (2 Peter 1:15)*

*"This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:" (2 Peter 3:1)*

#### B. Don't lose sight of the \_\_\_\_\_ He deserves

*"Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eateth grass." (Psalm 106:20)*