

IMPRISONED BY CHOICE

Introduction – The false god of endless options in our consumer society is enslaving us. There are too many options in every area of our life. We become paralyzed into half-hearted commitments in order to keep our options open.

A. The people of God are wavering. 1 Kings 18:20-21

Psychologist Barry Schwartz, in his book entitled The Paradox of Choice, says “We demand options. We imagine that more options mean more freedom and satisfaction. We think limitless freedom must be the best option. That is why we have trouble committing to anything and want to keep our options open. The irony is that this apparent benefit does not bring us happiness. The number of choices becomes overwhelming and it becomes difficult for us to have the joy that comes from fully committing to anything or anyone.”

B. In contrast to our culture of open-ended options, God calls for us to be whole-hearted and single-minded. James 1:5-8

C. God models decisive choosing

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

1 Corinthians 1:26-30

D. God is calling us to make the choice of life rather than embracing the many-optioned slavery and death.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Matthew 6:24

Conclusion – Choose the God of limitless possibilities who chose to limit himself to one way and one people, the bride of Christ.

Romans 8:28-29

Discussion Questions

1. What are some practical choices that you must make where there are too many options?
2. Why do limitless choices not lead to freedom, but slavery?
3. What do you need to do to simplify your life and prioritize the Lord?