

Aim: Choosing God**Refer:** 1 Kings 17-19; Great Controversy chapter 6

John Huss was raised to love God by his widowed mother and received a scholarship to study at the university in Prague. He was a dedicated student, Christian and member of the Church; after completing his studies he entered the priesthood and was eventually assigned to the chapel in Bethlehem, Prague. In this chapel, the Bible had always been preached in the language of the people, and John Huss continued with this tradition; encouraging the people to turn from evil and practice the truth. He also read the writings of John Wycliffe with interest and believed Wycliffe must be a sincere Christian, although Huss wasn't ready yet to break from the Church.

About this time two missionaries came from England, speaking out against the power of the Pope. When the authorities told them to stop they changed their tactics. They drew two murals, one showing Christ entering Jerusalem on a donkey followed by his travel-worn disciples and the other showing the Pope with his magnificent robes and crown followed by his officers in dazzling array. Everyone could see the difference!

The Bible preaching of John Huss soon came to the attention of the church leaders in Rome and Huss was called to appear before the Pope, but the king, queen, university and government all appealed that he be permitted to answer the charges from Prague. Instead, the Pope declared the city of Prague under interdict: – Churches must be closed, funerals forbidden and everyone would be banned from heaven – or so the Pope claimed. This caused such a disturbance in Prague that Huss left the city, returning to his home town and travelling through the countryside preaching to those who eagerly listened.

After a while John was able to return and continue preaching the Gospel of the Bible from his pulpit in the Bethlehem Chapel. He continued to speak out against sin and corruption, and urged the people to follow the teachings of the Bible.

The Israelites had a choice – Discuss what their choice was and how they knew the right choice. 1 Kings 18:21-24

The people of Prague had a choice – Discuss what their choice was and how they could tell what was right.

- How did the picture of the Pope compare to Jesus?
- Read Isaiah 8:20 – How would this verse help them?

You also have choices to make every day; some are big choices and some are small; some are not very important but others are very important. **Discuss some choices you might have to make; how long will the consequences of the choice affect you?**

(Try and think of your own but here are some examples if you get stuck)

- What clothes to wear
- What to eat for breakfast
- To try a cigarette, alcoholic drink or drug if a friend offers one to you (people can be addicted after only one try)

Discuss how can you tell what is the best choice to make?

- Pray about it
- Consider if the Bible has any stories or verses that cover your situation
- Talk to adults you trust, especially adults who love God.

Read and discuss what happened to Elijah afterwards in 1 Kings 19

Have you ever felt this way?

Your feelings are affected by your health, sickness, tiredness and even your thoughts.

- You may have times when you don't feel like God is listening – this is when you need a verse like 1 John 5:14
- You may have times when you feel overwhelmed with worry – you need to claim a verse like Philippians 4:6, 7
- You may have times when you feel like everything is out of control – you need a verse like Joshua 1:9
- You may have times when you feel like you are too sinful for God – you need to remember 1 John 1:9; Titus 2:14; Isaiah 1:18

Next week you will learn about a friend of John Huss' who had an experience something like Elijah's.'