

Mastering The Seven Decisions

- **Condensed notes** From the book "Mastering the Seven Decisions" author Andy Andrews

INTRO:

It is a privilege to share these 7 Decisions with you. The Christian Brother who discovered and produced them has gone through the struggles of each of these 7 Decisions. Through sad circumstances he became a bum sleeping under bridges. Then like the prodigal son he came to himself and found God's plan for his life. He went to a library and started reading success stories which revolutionized his life. He started to research as to WHY? and WHAT? Made people successful, what makes them heroes? He spend 25 years on this research and discovered all ingredients centered on 7 Decisions. These 7 decisions are the result of 25 years of research.

The results of this Brother's research was rejected by more than 50 book publishers. But he implemented each of these 7 Decisions. The result is that now he has over a *million* people who have applied these principles and he has been a famous speaker to large audiences all over the world. Many presidents and other high level government officials have sought his counsel.

Abraham Bible - Furthermore I want to add that I personally in more or less subconscious ways have included and made all 7 of these decisions part of my life. I am excited about sharing these 7 decisions because they contain my personal testimony.

I suggest to you: **Seek, and Ye Shall Find!**

The BIBLE STATES: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. —MATTHEW 7:7 KJV

Even better JESUS SAID: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Today I offer you these 7 choices from Jesus (or choice #1)

ONE: THE RESPONSIBLE DECISION *The Buck Stops Here.* (Final responsibility)

*I accept responsibility for my past. I am responsible for my success. I will not let my history control my destiny. **The responsible Decision** shows us how to stop blaming other people and outside circumstances for where we are in life. Instead, we can chart our life's course, allowing our lives to become testaments to the true power of choice.*

1. The responsible Decision for Personal Success is a key—*it represents the beginning. Taking responsibility for your past will move you into an extraordinary future of your choosing.*

President Harry S. Truman said: "If decisions are choices - - - and our thinking dictates our decisions – then we are where we are because of our thinking."

The buck stops here. I accept responsibility for my past. I am responsible for my success. I will not let my history control my destiny. The Responsible Decision shows us how to stop blaming other people and outside circumstances for where we are in life. Instead, we can chart our life's course, allowing our lives to become testaments to the true power of choice.

Where I am today, we tell ourselves, is a consequence of what other people (our parents, for example) and circumstances have done to me.

The bad news is the past was in your hands, but the good news is that the future, my friend, is also in your hands.

The stories of wealthy, influential, successful world-changers are constantly riddled with adversity. Each one was presented with the challenge of accepting responsibility for his decisions and circumstances—and each one did.

The primary way our thinking must change is to realize we are responsible for where we are. When faced with the opportunity to make a decision, I will make one.

I understand that God did not put in me the ability to always make right decisions. God did, however, put in me the ability to make wrong decisions right.

2. The Responsible Decision is the key. The buck stops here. You're responsible for your past and your future. When you take Personal Inventory of your failures and successes; a new realization sets in: *If I'm in control of my life, if I fail, then it really is my fault!*

My mind will not dwell in the problems of the past—*it will live in the solutions of the future*

3. The Responsible Decision shows that: *Adversity is preparation for greatness.*

Thomas Watson, founder of IBM, said, "That's where success lies—on the far side of failure."

When you view your "failures" as opportunities for growth and discovery, you free yourself from the fear of failure."

How can you fail when your "failures" are merely lessons you learned on your way to success?

((OgMandino Ruined and broke entered the self-help section in a library and began to read fervently. For several months, he spent almost every afternoon and evening in the library, reading book after book until he found one called "Success Through a Positive Mental Attitude", by W. Clement Stone.

As a result of reading that book Og. Mandino published "*The Greatest Salesman in the World*". The writer of the 7 Decisions states: When my mom and dad passed away, and I ended up sleeping under the pier, my own life at a total dead end, it was that book along with its little companion booklet, "*The Greatest Secret in the World*", that revolutionized my life . . .))

All the time I had been thinking "**Why Me?**" I awoke with **Why me?** I went to bed with **Why me?** I walked around all day long thinking, **Why me?**

Never again will I blame my past for my present condition . . . I will look forward. I will not let my history control my destiny. My life began to change when I understood that **adversity** is a common experience of great people. Instead of feeling sorry for myself, I began to get excited. I realized that adversity is more like a toll bridge than an insurmountable roadblock on the way to success. My problems became less invasive—I no longer felt as though they were always going to be there.

In the future when I am tempted to ask the question, "Why me?" I will immediately counter with the answer, "**Why NOT me?**" Challenges are gifts, opportunities to learn. Problems are the common thread running through the lives of great men and women. *In times of adversity, I will not have a problem to deal with; I will have a **choice** to make.*

Unfortunately, many people run from their problems, not realizing that they're necessary stops on the road to the life they want. I began to wonder, is adversity what helps people become great? One hero stated: "*Overcoming adversity strengthened my problem-solving skills, and demonstrating a positive response to adversity magnetically drew people to me.*" Adversity prepares you for greatness. **Challenges are gifts. Problems present opportunities** to learn and grow. In times of adversity, you don't have a problem to deal with; you have a choice to make. Why you? Why not you! Why shouldn't you be prepared for something great?

God moves mountains to create the opportunity of His choosing. It is up to you to be ready to move yourself.

As one famous Brother put it, "If you don't know where you're going, you'll end up someplace else."

GOD GAVE US HIS BASIC DESIRE

in Joshua chapter one

"Be not afraid – be courageous – Move ahead