

The Valley of Decision

"Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision." Joel 3:14

"Decision" in this context refers to God deciding and judging the nations. But God's decision, in large measure, is influenced by our decisions. The historical setting is the valley of Jehoshaphat (cf. verse 2) where the Battle of Armageddon is fought. In a book, the name of which I do not remember, dealing with the most important battles in the history of the world, the fate of races and empires were settled by fateful decisions made by commanders in the field of battle.

In an analogous way, **each of us make fateful decisions that appreciably influence the decisions God makes when we meet Him in the valley of judgment.** The author of Hebrews says of Moses, "he looked at the ultimate rather than the immediate reward."¹ Moses reflects the mind-set that best prepares us for the "Valley of Decision." None can predict the consequences of their decisions, but God will not judge us on just the decisions themselves. Rather, He also judges our motives and intent.

The decisions you make today may determine the outcome of a particular battle you face. However, those decisions will also determine the decision God will make when you meet Him in judgment.