

Just say "NO"

Intro. A magazine editor conducted a survey of a number of prominent successful people as to the most misused and the most useful word. The result was "YES" as the most misused word and "NO" as the most useful word.

Observation has taught us that no one amount so much who cannot say "NO." Everyone ridicules and degrades a "YES" man. A "YES" man is looked upon as one with a "Weak Spineless Character" who will sell out under any circumstances, as long as he can gain some advantage over others. In other WORDS, he is crooked. He can be bought and sold

Saying "YES" under pressure eventually brings on problems and headaches galore, which can be prevented by just saying "NO" in the beginning.

Nancy Reagan was asked to give ADVICE to our young people when they are being pressured by their peers to join in and take drugs, have a good time and be accepted, and she said, "JUST SAY NO." That is the solution of the drug problem and a host of other problems. Just say that little two letter word: "NO"

SPECIAL THOUGHT: No man's character is any bigger than his ability to say "NO." **Power of Positive Thinking—Many Great Lessons in the negative.**

I. God says "NO" to those who fail to say "NO" to Tempt.

1. **Gen. 11**-Tower of Babel
2. **Gen 14:27**-Pharaoh at the Red Sea.
3. **Num 20:17-21**-Israelites taking route through Edom.
Shows the long way around is best.
4. Israelites-40 yrs in the wilderness
5. We may not understand always why He says "NO."
But the Scriptures tell why in Isaiah 55:8—"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, " saith the Lord.
6. He said, "NO" to Moses entering the promised Land in **Deut. 3:26**.
7. He said "NO" to Bailum in **Numbers 22:24-34**.
8. "NO" to Paul in **2Cor. 12** (Thorn in the FLESH)
9. JESUS in the garden

Jeremiah 10:23—O Lord I know that the way of man is not in himself, it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

Prov. 15:23—There is a way that seemeth right unto a man but the end thereof are the ways of death.

GOD KNOWS THE RIGHT ANSWER TO GIVE TO MAN.

GOD KNOWS WHEN TO SAY “NO,” AND HE KNOWS WHEN TO SAY “YES.” AND SOMETIMES HE SAYS “MAYBE,” OR “WAIT AWHILE.” “I’ll think about it?”

II. God will not hesitate to say “NO” to those who fail to SIN today.

1. **NO TO SINNERS** – John 7:31- “Now we know that God heareth not sinners but if a man be a worshipper of God and doeth His will, him he heareth.”
2. **NO TO PRAYERS WITH WRONG MOTIVES**—James 4:3
Ye ask and receive not because you ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.
3. His saying “YES” depends upon our saying “YES” to his commands.
4. He says “NO” to those who try to be neutral—
Matt. 12:30-“He that is not with me is against me.”
5. He says “NO” to those who try to serve something else
Matt. 6:24-“Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”
6. He says “NO” to those trying to be saved outside the church. Acts 2:47—“And the LORD added to the church daily such as should be saved.”
Eph. 5:23—He is the Savior of the body (See Eph. 1:23)
7. “NO” to the unbeliever – Heb. 11:6-“But without faith it is impossible to please God.”
8. **Matt. 10:32-33**—“NO” to those who don’t confess Him

See also Rom 10:10-“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

9. “NO” to those who fail to be baptized. John 3:5

See also 1st Peter 3:21 or Acts 22:16.

10, “NO” to those who have wrong worship—Matt. 15:9.

III. **OUR SALVATION**—Depends upon our saying “NO” to Sin

1. Prov. 1:10—“My son, if sinners entice thee consent thou not.” Say “NO” to Sin. Say “NO” to running around with the wrong crowd. They will only get you in trouble.
2. Acts 5:29—Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, “We ought to obey God rather than men. “
 - a. Put God first – Say “NO” to men.
3. “NO” is the word that gives strength to “YES”
 - a. Everything has it’s positive and negative.
 - b. “YES” is worthless unless unless backed up with a “NO.” **Example:** The whole office is going out to eat one night and the boss is picking up the Tab. The boss expects you to be there. But you know that many will be drinking something loaded with alcohol. You say “YES” to going, but you better back it up with a “NO” when the waitress takes everyone’s orders.

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c. You cannot be for something unless you are against that which opposes it.

4. Psalm 119:104-"I hate every false way."

Conclusion: To all the allurements and temptations we must learn to say "NO" if we want to hear the Lord say "YES" to our entering into heaven as our eternal home.

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