

The background features a vertical gradient from purple at the top to green at the bottom. Scattered throughout are various musical symbols, including a large treble clef in the upper left, several eighth and quarter notes, and a group of beamed notes. The text is centered and rendered in a white, serif font with a yellow outline.

GOD'S RHYTHMS
of GRACE

The Gift of Choice

Deuteronomy 30:11

This command I am giving you today is not too difficult for you, and it is not beyond your reach.

Deuteronomy 30:12

It is not kept in heaven, so distant that you must ask, 'Who will go up to heaven and bring it down so we can hear it and obey?'

Deuteronomy 30:13

It is not kept beyond the sea, so far away that you must ask, 'Who will cross the sea to bring it to us so we can hear it and obey?'

Deuteronomy 30:14

No, the message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it.

Deuteronomy 30:15

Now listen! Today I am giving you
a choice between life and death,
between prosperity and disaster.

Deuteronomy 30:16a

For I command you this day to love the Lord your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways.

Deuteronomy 30:16b

If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.

Deuteronomy 30:17

**But if your heart turns away and
you refuse to listen, and if you
are drawn away to serve and
worship other gods,**

Deuteronomy 30:18

then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy.

Deuteronomy 30:19a

Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make.

Deuteronomy 30:19b

**Oh, that you would choose life,
so that you and your
descendants might live!**

Deuteronomy 30:20a

You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. He is the key to your life.

Deuteronomy 30:20b

And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The background features a vertical gradient from purple at the top to green at the bottom. Scattered throughout are various musical symbols, including a large treble clef in the upper left, several eighth and quarter notes, and a group of beamed notes. The text is centered and rendered in a white, serif font with a yellow outline.

GOD'S RHYTHMS
of GRACE

The Gift of Choice

Principle #1

God's gift of choice is a result of His love for us, even though the results of our choices can be disastrous to us and displeasing to God.

Deuteronomy 30:15

**Now listen! Today I am giving you
a choice between life and death,
between prosperity and disaster.**

Principle #1

God's gift of choice is a result of His love for us, even though the results of our choices can be disastrous to us and displeasing to God.

Principle #2

God gives us choices because the demands of our covenant relationship with God are knowable, reasonable, comprehensible, and possible.

Deuteronomy 30:11

This command I am giving you today is not too difficult for you, and it is not beyond your reach.

Deuteronomy 30:12

It is not kept in heaven, so distant that you must ask, 'Who will go up to heaven and bring it down so we can hear it and obey?'

Deuteronomy 30:13

It is not kept beyond the sea, so far away that you must ask, 'Who will cross the sea to bring it to us so we can hear it and obey?'

Deuteronomy 30:14

No, the message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it.

Deuteronomy 30:15

**Now listen! Today I am giving you
a choice between life and death,
between prosperity and disaster.**

Deuteronomy 30:16a

For I command you this day to love the Lord your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways.

Deuteronomy 30:16b

If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.

Deuteronomy 30:17

**But if your heart turns away and
you refuse to listen, and if you
are drawn away to serve and
worship other gods,**

Deuteronomy 30:18

then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy.

Deuteronomy 30:19a

Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make.

Deuteronomy 30:19b

**Oh, that you would choose life,
so that you and your
descendants might live!**

Deuteronomy 30:20a

You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. He is the key to your life.

Deuteronomy 30:20b

And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Principle #2

God gives us choices because the demands of our covenant relationship with God are knowable, reasonable, comprehensible, and possible.

Principle #3

We are free to choose, but we are not free from the consequences of our choices.

Deuteronomy 30:17

**But if your heart turns away and
you refuse to listen, and if you
are drawn away to serve and
worship other gods,**

Deuteronomy 30:18

then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy.

Principle #3

We are free to choose, but we are not free from the consequences of our choices.

Principle #4

Our choices reveal faithfulness or faithlessness.

1 Kings 18:21a

Then Elijah stood in front of them and said, “How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions?”

1 Kings 18:21b

**If the Lord is God, follow him!
But if Baal is God, then follow
him!” But the people were
completely silent.**

Principle #4

Our choices reveal faithfulness or faithlessness.

Principle #5

Our choices shape us and change us for better or for worse.

C.S. Lewis

**Every time you make a choice
you are turning the central part
of you, the part of you that
chooses, your inner being, into
something a little different than
it was before.**

And if you look at your life as a whole, with all your innumerable choices, whether you realize it or not, you are slowly turning this central thing, your inner being, into a heavenly creature or a hellish creature:

With each choice you are either becoming a heavenly creature that is growing in love and harmony with God, with others, and with yourself, or you are becoming something unholy, that is growing in its rebellion and hatred of God, others, and itself.

Principle #6

It is never too late to stop making foolish or faithless choices.

Repenting:

- **Take responsibility for your choices by confessing them to God and to those who were affected.**
- **Commit to changing.**
- **Understand you can't change on your own.**

Principle #7

Choices made in faith will often demonstrate wisdom and patience as they invest in delayed gratification.

The background features a vertical gradient from purple at the top to green at the bottom. Scattered throughout are various musical symbols, including a large treble clef in the upper left, several eighth and quarter notes, and a group of beamed notes. The text is centered and rendered in a white, serif font with a yellow outline.

GOD'S RHYTHMS
of GRACE

The Gift of Choice