INTRO: Verse 14 parallels the words of Jesus in John 4:24. God seeks men & women who will serve Him--but He is not a religious beggar, begging for the crumbs that fall from our tables. He insists that if we choose to serve Him we must serve Him sincerely & in harmony with His revealed truth. Let us look closer at the choice that Joshua put before the people of his day & note how the same choice needs to be made by each individual in our own age.

I. CHOOSE. THERE IS A CHOICE TO BE MADE. WE ARE NOT INDIVIDUALLY PREDESTINED. WE HAVE A CHOICE.

A. There is no option to serve Jehovah along with other gods. It was either/or. A choice to serve Jehovah eliminates service to all other gods. A choice to serve any other god eliminates acceptable service to Jehovah.

B. This basic choice has always been before man.
   2. Abraham had to make the choice, Gen. 12:1-4.
   3. Moses had to choose, Heb. 11:24—25.
   4. Moses admonished the Israelites to choose.


C. Jesus demands the same loyalty of us today. Matt. 12:30

II. CHOOSE FOR YOURSELVES. NO ONE ELSE CAN CHOOSE FOR US. NO ONE CAN ACT IN OUR BEHALF.

So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God. (Rom. 14:12).

If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch & is withered; & they gather them & throw them into the fire, & they are burned. (John 15:6).

READ 2 THESS. 1:7-9

III. CHOOSE FOR YOURSELVES THIS DAY.

I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work (John 9:4)

NOTE: The sooner we make this choice the easier it
will be to live up to it. Choices make habits, habits make character, & character makes destiny.

All flesh is s grass & all the glory of marl as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, & its flower falls away (1 Pet 1:24).

READ JAMES 4:13—15

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming. (MT 25:13).

CONCLUSION: Did you have trouble deciding whether to come to services today? Choose today to serve God & you will have no trouble deciding whether to come at the next appointed time. That choice will already have been made.

Highway 29, Liberty Hill, TX, December 30, 1964
Cox Springs, TX, January 10, 1965
Springhill, LA, July 13, 1975
La Porte, TX, April 26, 1981
Exton, PA, September 29, 1991