

## The Biblical Concept of the Will of God (1)

### Introduction

- A. All men live according to certain priorities. For the Christian the highest priority is to know and do the will of God.
- B. The term "will of God" is used here to designate how the Christian is to live and what he is to do with his life.
- C. Seen through the eyes of the Bible there is nothing more important for you, as a believer, than to know and to do the will of God.

### I. The Biblical Theme and Emphasis on the Will of God, Matthew 6:9,10.

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Observation: Here the Lord Jesus gives us a blueprint on how to pray. We are to learn how to constantly seek and practice the will of God. We are to do His will as the holy angels in heaven: from the heart - not grudgingly; at once - not hesitatingly; spontaneously - not under promptings; completely - not partially; and in love - not selfishly.

### II. The Importance of the Will of God, Matthew 7:21.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.

Observation: The evidence that a person is a true believer is that a general characteristic of his life will be - doing God's will! This will manifest itself in a concern to know His will and an attempt to obey the commandments of the Bible.

### III. The Biblical Warning Concerning the Will of God, Luke 12:47.

And that servant which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

Observation: This parable states a serious warning for the Christian. God expects us to know His will and to carefully obey Him. When we fail in this area we incur spiritual loss and God's chastisement.

### IV. The Dedication of Jesus Christ to the Will of God, Luke 22:42.

The Lord Jesus prayed saying, Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me; nevertheless, not My will, but Thine, be done.

Observation: In the most difficult hour of His life, beside that of the actual Crucifixion, Jesus Christ took refuge in choosing the will of God. This is what He wanted. It was more important to Him than life itself.

V. The Source of Personal Fulfillment for Jesus Christ was God's Will, John 4:34.

Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me and to finish His work.

Observation: By use of the term "meat" i.e. daily food, the Lord Jesus indicates the satisfaction He derived from doing the will of God. This is also the source of the believer's daily fulfillment.

VI. The Promise to all Those Who Desire to Do God's Will, John 7:17.

If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether It be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Observation: God's promise is that He will reveal His will to us – if we desire to do His Will. This verse and promise applies particularly to those areas of life where we do not have a direct statement in the Bible.

VII. David is an Illustration of One Who Sought to Do God's Will, Acts 13:22,36.

And when He had removed him, He raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also He gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all My Will . . . For David after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep and was laid unto his fathers . . . .

Observation: These verses remind us that when we do the will of God we are pleasing God and serving Him. David, in spite of his sins, is here commended by God.

VIII. The Will of God is Known by Divine Revelation, Romans 2:17,18.

Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God, and knowest His will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law.

Observation: One of the great privileges of being a Jewish person, at the time of the Apostle Paul, was that they had been given the Scriptures. This is how we know the will of God for our daily lives. We must learn to read and obey the Bible.

IX. Personal Surrender is Where We Begin in Knowing the Will of God, Rom. 12:1,2.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Observation: To "prove" God's will is to see it stand up in the test. Once we learn to surrender our lives to Him and live for Him – we will recognize that His will is best.

Conclusion: The Psalmist prayed, Teach me to do thy Will . . . . Psalm 143:10.

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