

The Christian and the Will of God

Introduction

A. One of the most important characteristics of the Christian is that he can know and do the will of God.

B. The very desire to know and do the will of God is stated as being the condition for God's illumination and direction.

If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of Myself. John 7:17

C. One of the greatest comforts given to the Christian is to be able to say; "I know I am in the will of God."

I. Its Importance -- Matthew 7:21

Not everyone 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.

II. Its Key -- Romans 12:1,2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of ^God, that you 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.

III. Its Illustration -- 1 Corinthians 1:1

Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ, through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother.

IV. Its Directive -- Galatians 1:4

Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

V. Its Method Ephesians 6:5

Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

VI. Its Encouragement -- Colossians 4:12

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

VII. Its Goal -- I Thessalonians 4:3

For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication.

VIII. Its Goal -- I Thessalonians 4:16-18

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God In Christ Jesus concerning you.

IX. Its Pattern -- I Peter 2:15

For so is the will of God, that with well doing you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.

X. Its Contrast -- I Peter 4:2

That he no longer should live the rest of his time In the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

XI. Its Promise -- I John 2:17

And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

XII. Its Expectation -- I John 5:14

And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us.

Conclusion

In Matthew 6:10 we have been instructed to pray; ". . . Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

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