

# THE WILL OF GOD

Someone has well said that the key to being successful in life is to simply find out what God would have you to do and then do it. This is a very profound statement. You see, the true measure of a person's success in life is not found in the abundance of prosperity, nor the accumulation of possessions, nor the acknowledgment of prestige, nor the attainment of power, nor even the accomplishments of patriotism. The true measure of a person's success is always found in direct relationship to that person's obedience to *"The Will of God."*

Whether you realize it or not, God has a special plan for your life. In fact, God has a special plan for the life of every single believer. God desires to lead you, and guide you, and have you follow His steps. The Bible says, *"Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go."* (Isaiah 48:17) *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."* (Psalms 37:23) Isn't it wonderful how the Lord desires to lead us? As Christians, we have a heavenly Father above us sovereignly controlling all things; we have a humble Savior beside us carefully directing our footsteps; and we have the Holy Spirit within us tenderly impressing our hearts to do *"The Will of God."*

The purpose of this lesson is to help give you a better understanding of what the Bible has to say concerning *"The Will of God,"* so that you may accomplish in your life those things that God would have you to accomplish.

# I. THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF GOD'S WILL

## A. The Will Of God Is Three-fold.

### 1. There is the sovereign will of God.

a. There are certain things that God, in His sovereignty, has determined to be so. Some of these things He has revealed to us and some of these things He has not.

b. What God sovereignly wills to be done is always done, and nothing, or no one, can ever stop it from happening.

c. *"I Nebuchnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven and I blessed the most \_\_\_\_\_, and I praised and honoured him that \_\_\_\_\_ forever, whose \_\_\_\_\_ is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to \_\_\_\_\_ in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his \_\_\_\_\_, or say unto him, What doest thou?" (Daniel 4:34-35)*

### 2. There is the standard will of God.

a. The Bible teaches that there are certain things that are always right and others that are always wrong. These things hold true for everyone.

b. For instance, the Bible says, *"Thou shalt not steal,"* and *"Thou shalt not commit adultery."* These are general principles that hold true for everyone. They are a part of God's standard will, and He expects man to obey them.

c. When the Bible says that something is wrong, it is wrong regardless of what anyone else says. When the Bible says that something is right, it is right regardless of what anyone else says.

### 3. There is the special will of God.

a. God has a special plan for every single believer, because every single believer is special to Him.

b. God deals with His children as individuals, and He has as many plans as He has people.

c. *"For we are his \_\_\_\_\_, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should \_\_\_\_\_ in them." (Ephesians 2:10)*

## B. The Will Of God Is Very Important.

### 1. We cannot plan our own lives apart from God.

a. "O LORD, I know that the \_\_\_\_\_ of man is not in himself: it is not in \_\_\_\_\_ that walketh to \_\_\_\_\_ his steps." (Jeremiah 10:23)

b. "Man's \_\_\_\_\_ are of the LORD; how can a man then \_\_\_\_\_ his own way?" (Proverbs 20:24)

c. Someone has described man as "a clever creature who has lost his way in the dark." Man alone cannot direct his own way. He must have help from above.

### 2. God wants us to know His will for our lives.

a. "I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee and \_\_\_\_\_ thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee with mine eye." (Psalms 32:8)

b. The Apostle Paul said, "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to \_\_\_\_\_ for you, and to \_\_\_\_\_ that ye might be filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_ in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;" (Colossians 1:9)

c. "Wherefore be ye not \_\_\_\_\_, but understanding what the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is." (Ephesians 5:17)

## II. THE BASIC DISCOVERY OF GOD'S WILL

### A. Five Means By Which God's Will Is Revealed

#### 1. God reveals His will through the Word of God.

a. Much of the will of God is revealed to us in the Word of God, especially as it relates to God's standard will.

b. Thy \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ unto my feet, and a \_\_\_\_\_ unto my path." (Psalms 119:105)

c. We should never pray for guidance concerning what God has already commanded, or forbidden, in His Word.

## 2. God reveals His will through the Spirit of God.

a. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath \_\_\_\_\_ them unto us by his \_\_\_\_\_ : for the \_\_\_\_\_ searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." (I Corinthians 2:9-10)

b. "Howbeit when he, the \_\_\_\_\_ of truth, is come, he will \_\_\_\_\_ you into all truth ..." (John 16:13)

c. The Holy Spirit may direct you to do certain things not specifically mentioned in God's Word, but He will never direct you to do anything that is contrary to God's Word.

## 3. God reveals His will through the people of God.

a. Sometimes God uses the advice and counsel of godly people to reveal His special will to others.

b. "Where no \_\_\_\_\_ is, the people fall: but in the multitude of \_\_\_\_\_ there is safety." (Proverbs 11:14)

c. One should not hesitate to talk with a pastor, or other spiritual leaders in the church, concerning God's will.

## 4. God reveals His will through the providence of God.

a. "These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that, and no man \_\_\_\_\_ ; and \_\_\_\_\_ , and no man \_\_\_\_\_ ; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an \_\_\_\_\_ , and no man can shut it ..." (Revelations 3:7-8)

b. "For a great \_\_\_\_\_ and effectual is \_\_\_\_\_ unto me, and there are many adversaries." (I Corinthians 16:9)

c. The Bible speaks of God opening and closing doors, and sometimes He reveals His will to us in this way.

## 5. God reveals His will through the wisdom of God.

a. "Wherefore be ye not \_\_\_\_\_ , but understanding what the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is." (Ephesians 5:17)

b. A great deal of the will of God is found between the ears. It is nothing more than sanctified Common sense.

**Note:** *In times past, God sometimes spoke through voices, visions, miracles, and dreams. However, with the completion of the Bible, and it's availability today, the need for God to speak in these ways has largely vanished.*

## B. Three Musts Before God's Will Is Revealed

### 1. There must be a preparation of the heart.

a. You must first be willing to do the will of God.

b. *"If any man \_\_\_\_\_ do his \_\_\_\_\_, he shall \_\_\_\_\_ of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." (John 7:17)*

c. Sometimes we say we are willing, but in reality our minds are already made up. And so, what we usually end up trying to do is simply force our will upon God.

### 2. There must be a presentation of the life.

a. You must be willing to yield yourself unto God, and present yourself unto Him for His service.

b. *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_ what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, \_\_\_\_\_ of God." (Romans 12:1-2)*

c. Name the three words the Apostle Paul uses to describe the will of God? (Romans 12:2) \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** *The Apostle Paul said that yielding yourself to God completely is reasonable because of the mercies of God. You see, the Lord Jesus died for you in agony on the cross. Therefore, you should be able to trust Him, the One who was willing to give His life for you, to always have your best interest at heart.*

### 3. There must be a practice of the Word.

a. *"Teach me to \_\_\_\_\_ thy \_\_\_\_\_; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; \_\_\_\_\_ me into the land of uprightness." (Psalms 143:10)*

b. *"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own \_\_\_\_\_. In all thy ways \_\_\_\_\_ him, and he shall \_\_\_\_\_ thy paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)*

c. You must make it a priority to fulfill the standard will of God in your daily life, and then trust God to guide you in determining, and doing, His special will for your life.

### III. THE BENEFITS OF DOING GOD'S WILL

#### A. Doing The Will Of God Is Pleasurable.

##### 1. There is a real joy that comes with doing God's will.

a. Joy comes when we know we have allowed God, and not personal desire or human reasoning, to lead us.

b. *“He that handleth a matter wisely shall find \_\_\_\_\_ and whoso \_\_\_\_\_ in the LORD, \_\_\_\_\_ is he.” (Proverbs 16:20)*

##### 2. It is one of the best things that can happen to you.

a. When we willingly follow the leading of the Lord, God will give us peace and rest in our heart and life.

b. *“When a man's ways \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at \_\_\_\_\_ with him.” (Proverbs 16:7)*

#### B. Doing The Will Of God Is Profitable.

##### 1. It brings lifelong blessings to the believer.

a. *“He that \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ abideth for ever.” (I John 2:17)*

b. *“For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no \_\_\_\_\_ will he withhold from them that \_\_\_\_\_ uprightly.” (Psalms 84:11)*

##### 2. God will never lead you where His power will not enable you, and His grace will not keep you.

a. Always remember where God guides, God provides.

b. God will give you all the strength, courage, wisdom, and ability you will need to accomplish His will.

**Conclusion:** Never forget that God's will is not a road map, it is a relationship with God. (*Memorize: Proverbs 3:5-6*)