

## GOD'S WILL AND DECISIONMAKING

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### Question:

How can we understand God's will when we can't understand God? Isaiah 55:9 \_\_\_\_\_

All of God's will is revealed for us in Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16,17

We are commanded to understand God's will: Ephesians 5:17

God wants to reveal His will to us more than we want to know it. God's ability to communicate His will is perfect.

### There are 3 Aspects of God's Will

#### 1. God's SOVEREIGN Will.

This is defined as God's overarching plan for all that happens in the universe. It is His absolute authority over all of His creation.

*Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth".*

*Job 23:13 "But he alone is God, and who can oppose Him? God does as he pleases".*

*Matthew 6:10 "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven...."*

#### 2. God's MORAL Will.

God's Moral Will is revealed in scripture, teaching men how they ought to believe and live.

When it comes to decision making, it is important to understand that all of our decisions must be in harmony with what God has said in the Bible. The Bible gives us 100% of God's Moral Will. It is referred to as God's Permissive Will by some since God gives us the choice to obey or disobey His revealed moral will. *Romans 8:6 "For the mind set on the flesh is death; but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace."*

#### 3. God's INDIVIDUAL Will.

God's Individual Will is the ideal, detailed plan that unfolds daily in our life. There is no "random" in our lives, every moment runs according to God's plan. This is also referred to as God's Specific Will. *Proverbs 16:33 "The lot is cast into the lap but its every decision is from the Lord."*

The Spirit of God always gives confirmation at the point of each decision if we seek Him. *James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God .... and it will be given him."*

Which aspect of God's Will do these verses illustrate, 1., 2. or 3. Groups of 3 or 4 men.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 \_\_\_\_\_ Daniel 4:35 \_\_\_\_\_ Romans 12:2 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Corinthians 6:14 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 2:18 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Thessalonians 4:3, \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 2:23 \_\_\_\_\_ Ephesians 6:6 \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 3:5,6 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Peter 2:15 \_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_ Romans 8:29 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 28:19,20 \_\_\_\_\_ John 10:27-29 \_\_\_\_\_ Revelation 3:7,8 \_\_\_\_\_ Matthew 7:7 \_\_\_\_\_



To get a grasp of God's Will for us, it is important that we understand God's Truth concerning our identity; that is where we came from, where we are going and what God wants us to do.

Consider Jesus' example:

John 13: 3-5 ESV "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him."

Jesus knew that he had come from God. He knew that he was the Son of God of whom God had said "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased". Mark 1:11 ESV.

Jesus knew that he was going back to God. John 13:1 tells us "Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father".

Therefore, He rose from supper, took a towel and basin of water and began to wash the disciples' feet. He had the clear panoramic view of where He had come from and where He was going, He knew God's will for Him and did it, including washing the disciples' feet.

• Where have you come from? *Psalm 139:15,16* \_\_\_\_\_

When did God choose you to be His? *Ephesians 1:4* \_\_\_\_\_

Is God well pleased with you? *Proverbs 16:3* \_\_\_\_\_

Does God rejoice in you? *Zephaniah 3:17* \_\_\_\_\_

How often does God think about you? *Psalms 139:17,18 NASB* \_\_\_\_\_

• Where are you going? *Philippians 3:20* \_\_\_\_\_

Our new home? *John 14:1* \_\_\_\_\_

Describe this event. *Romans 8:19* \_\_\_\_\_

How are we related to God? *Ephesians 1:5* \_\_\_\_\_

• What guilt do we have? *Colossians 2:13b-14* \_\_\_\_\_

Where are we spiritually? *Ephesians 1:20, 2:6* \_\_\_\_\_

How much authority do we have in Jesus Christ? *Matthew 28:18* \_\_\_\_\_

How does God want us to live life? *Colossians 2:6,7* \_\_\_\_\_

What will characterize our life? *Galatians 5:22, 23* \_\_\_\_\_



4. How to determine Gods Individual Will for decisions and directions in your life.

5. Nav booklet: "How to Spend a Day in Prayer" Lorne C. Sanny.

