

LIVING IN GOD'S PERFECT WILL

Living in God's Perfect Will

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart. Jeremiah 1:5

The very essence of a Christian's life, is living in God's perfect will.

GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL: This is God's ultimate master plan for the universe. It's going to happen and there's nothing you can do to stop it

GOD'S PERMISSIVE WILL: This is something that God may not directly cause but may allow it. You may not like it, you may not understand it, but he allows things in his permissive will.

GOD'S REVEALED/MORAL WILL: This is His moral will He's already given for how you are to live. It's already revealed in the bible and it doesn't change.

GOD'S PERSONAL WILL: This is God's specific will for you. This is the one we all want. When we get to know God's heart, and submit to him we can get to know his specific personal will for our life.

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:33-34 NKJV

God's Sovereign Will

Omnipotent: God possesses all power, and nothing is impossible for Him.

Omniscient: God knows all things, including our thoughts.

Omnipresent: God is present everywhere.

- And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. Revelation 21:6 NKJV
- The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all. psalms 103:19 NKJV
- For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. Colossians 1:16 NKJV
- Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' Isaiah 46:10 KJV
- Which He will display at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 1 Timothy 6:15
- Many are the plans of a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. Proverbs

God's Permissive Will

- This something that God may not directly cause but might allow. We may not like it, we may not understand it but God permits it. God gave us free will to make choices.
- "And we know that for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 ESV

God's Moral/Revealed Will

God's moral will is God's everlasting truths found in His word for how we live. It is his will for you and I that is already revealed and explained.

- your moral will for you is to be holy. The Greek word for holy is hagios. Which means to be different. To be set apart. **Thessalonians 4:3 NIV** " it is God's will that you should be sanctified(or holy, Set apart) "
- Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. **14** As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. **15** But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." 1 Peter 1:13-16. NIV
- Sometimes we get caught up in the adventurous side of God's will that we don't do the basic, foundational things he's already revealed.
• **Hebrews 13:8** says, **Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever more.**

God's Moral/Revealed Will

- *“The secret things belong to the Lord our God (God's Sovereign will) , but the things that are revealed (God's moral/revealed will) belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.” Deuteronomy 29:29 ESV*
- Sometimes we want God's direction for our future but we ignore his direction He's already given us in his Word for how we live today. We cannot walk in God's will if we are disobeying God's word. If we want to know God's will let's start doing what he already said.
- we need to stop asking, God what do you want me to do, and start asking God who do you want me to become. That affects how we live life.
- Obedience is not merely our willpower. It's not just trying harder. But it's achieved with the Holy Spirit's sanctifying power through a humble surrendered heart seeking righteousness.

God's Moral/Revealed Will

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!**5** Let your [b]gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.**6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; **7** and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**8** Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. **9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.**

Philippians 4:4-9 NKJV

God's Personal Will

It is God's specific will for our life.

- Ephesians 2:10 •For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago
- "When we ask the question, how do we find God's will for our lives we're implying that we're looking for it. We're not gonna find God's will by searching for it. We're gonna find it by submitting to it." Rick Rhodes
- Most of us want to know what God's specific plan is for us, but often the problem is that we need to practice obedience and submission first. Because **why would God tell us what to do and what the plan is for our lives when we're not yet willing to say yes Lord, to whatever it might be.**
- There's no such thing as a transactional agreement with God. He's a relational God.

God's Personal Will

- You have not fallen so far away from God's hand that he can't redeem you and bring you back into his perfect will. You have not messed up so bad that he can't take you from where you are to where he created you to be.
- If God showed us more than one step at a time we would become distracted from what's in front of us.
- your word oh Lord is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105.
- Psalms 32:8 NIV : I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go. I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.
- God never leads us where he cannot keep us.

6 So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed *is* before Him!"

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the LORD does not see as man sees*; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16: 6-7 NKJV

God's Personal Will

Exodus 3: **10** Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh so that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

11 But Moses said to God, “Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

Exodus 4:1 Then Moses answered and said, “But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, ‘The LORD has not appeared to you.’”

10 Then Moses said to the LORD, “O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I *am* slow of speech and [c]slow of tongue.”

Exodus 3:12 He said, “ Certainly I will be with you.

- “When we try to find God's will for our life, we spend our life trying to find God's will.” Rick Rhodes
- The peace of God is the final call with our decisions in life.

God's Personal Will

- Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; **7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**
- colossians 3:15: let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts
 - You cannot analyze your way to peace. You trust your way to peace.
- When we try to keep control of our life, we bear the weight of our decision. Rhodes put it this way: “We should say Yes, before we know what we're saying yes to”
- God purposefully made only one of you and doesn't need you in two places at once so put your all where you're at right now.

Recap

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- Living in God's perfect will isn't something we just achieve someday and we're in it for good. It's a lifelong journey with God.
- A step of faith is saying yes before we know what we're saying yes to. Not just saying the words. But real surrender. Real willingness. We can have full confidence in doing that because we know who we're saying yes to.

Recap

1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,

2 for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

3 Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

4 So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

8 It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

Proverbs 3:1-8