



*Mid-Week 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015*

*Theme: Knowing and Accepting the Will of God (Romans 12: 1-3)*

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# ***Outline:***

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ How God reveals his Will
- ❑ 8 ways of how to align your Will with God's Will For Your Life
- ❑ Benefits for Obeying God's Will
- ❑ Consequences for Disobeying God's Will



# ***Introduction:***

- Its one thing to know the will of God and it's a different thing all together to do it—  
***(Isaiah 30:21) Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it.***



# ***Introduction (contd)***

- ❑ God's will can not take you where his grace can not keep you –  
***(Proverbs 3:5-6) Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths***
- The will of God will never take you,  
Where the grace of God cannot keep you,  
Where the arms of God cannot support you,  
Where the riches of God cannot supply your needs,  
Where the power of God cannot endow you.
- The will of God will never take you,  
Where the spirit of God cannot work through you,  
Where the wisdom of God cannot teach you,  
Where the army of God cannot protect you,  
Where the hands of God cannot mold you.
- The will of God will never take you,  
Where the love of God cannot enfold you,  
Where the mercies of God cannot sustain you,  
Where the peace of God cannot calm your fears,  
Where the authority of God cannot overrule for you.
- The will of God will never take you,  
Where the comfort of God cannot dry your tears,  
Where the Word of God cannot feed you,  
Where the miracles of God cannot be done for you,  
Where the omnipresence of God cannot find you



# ***Introduction (contd)***

- Doing the will of God the hard way - *The story of Jonah not only shows that though you can run from God you can't hide from him but also that you will be exposed by God*



# ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL***

- ❑ ***God speaks through circumstances*** - God is in charge of our little world. And the events that He allows—getting fired from a job, meeting a future mate, getting rebuked by a pastor or Christian leader, the family we were born into, the town in which we live, the skill sets, talents, and gifts we possess—are all part of God's divine blueprint for our lives



## ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...***

- God speaks through opportunities** - God works through open doors and opportunities. It's that simple. These are not just "lucky" occurrences. If you want to do God's will, "Go. Do something and God will direct you."



## ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...***

### **□ God Speaks Through other**

**people** - This is where most of us slip up. We live a lone-ranger Christianity and refuse to listen to wise spiritual counsel. I believe that God's plan for the Christian in this age is through the local church. Every believer should not only be a part of a local church, but should voluntarily put himself under the accountability of other people





## ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...***

### **□ God speaks through his Word -**

How basic, but how true. The fact of the matter is this: 99% of what God wants to you to do in your life is spelled out in His Word. And here's a news flash for you. God is not going to mysteriously lead you to do something that contradicts His Word.



# ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...***

- ❑ **God speaks by giving us an inner assurance of peace -**  
Doing God's will demands a decision. And that decision requires faith and action. Faith and obedience are like twins; they go together and you will need an inner assurance of peace. God's inner assurance of peace will act as an umpire in your heart (*Colossians 3:15*).



## ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...***

- ❑ **God Speaks Through Visions –**  
There are countless stories in the Bible that talk about God giving others visions. (*“I will pour out my Holy Spirit upon all mankind, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men dream dreams.”- Acts 2:17*)



## *HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...*

- **God Speaks Through Dreams** – This doesn't mean that all dreams are from God, but some definitely are Joseph's Dreams (*Genesis 37:9-11*)



## ***HOW GOD REVEALS HIS WILL, CONT...***

- ❑ **God reveals his will through Prophecy**– Sometimes God sends people to us to send a message from Him. “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he reveal his secret unto his servants the prophets” (*Amos 3:7*).



# ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE***

- **# 1. Walk with God** - For starters, if you are interested in knowing God's plan for your life, then you must learn to walk with God. You need to develop a relationship with Him. Christianity is all about relationship rather than just religion



## ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE***

- **# 2. Surrender your will to His Will** - Many times when we say we are seeking God's will, what we are really wanting to say to God is this: "OK, God, here's what I'm planning to do. Now I need you to rubber stamp this. Before God begins to reveal His will to you, you must be committed to doing whatever it is that He desires for you to do



## ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE , CONT...***

- **# 3. Obey God's Revealed Will in His Word -**  
Many people seem to want to know what God's plan is for their lives, but they overlook the fact that 98% of His will is already delineated carefully through His Word. God is very clear about many, many aspects of His will





## ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE***

### **□ # 4. Surround yourself with Godly**

**people-**If you choose to surround yourself with godly advisors, they will be instrumental in helping you discern God's plan for your life. But if you surround yourself with people who are far from God, your hope of finding His best for your life will be greatly diminished.

*(Proverbs 11:14, Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety).*



## ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE , CONT...***

### **□ # 5. Pay attention to how God has wired**

**you-**God has created you to fulfill a specific role in this world. There is no one else who can achieve completely what God has purposely created you to do. *(1 Peter 4:10; As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God)*



## ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE***

- **# 6. Listen to God's Spirit** – You will experience a major turning point in your prayer life when you learn simply to shut up while praying. (*John 10:27; My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me*)



# ***8 KEYS TO KNOWING GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE, CONT...***

- **# 7. Listen to your heart** - In addition to listening to the Spirit, I also recommend listening to your heart. To understand my point here, consider the following passage. *(Psalms 37:4-5; Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass)*



## ***8 WAYS OF HOW TO ALIGN YOUR WILL WITH GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE***

### **○ # 8. Take a look at your circumstances-**

God often clearly demonstrates His plan for our lives by lining up circumstances in obvious ways. And He also shows us what His will is NOT for us to do in that same way. (*Acts 16:10; Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them*)



# BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL

- ❑ **LONG LIFE** - Can obedience affect one's length of days? (**Deuteronomy 32:46-47; Proverbs 3:1-2**) As a general principle, if we will seek to live in the will of God and obey His laws, then our days will be lengthened; but if we break His laws by living careless, intemperate, self-led lives, then our days may be shortened.



# BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL

- ❑ **PROTECTION** -There is a wonderful promise in (Ecclesiastes 8:5) Does it mean that nothing will “go wrong” if we obey God? Sorrow, trials and testing will come, but as they come they will not prevail against us



# BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL..

## CONT....

- ❑ **GLADNESS-** The most joyful people in the world are those who are constantly seeking to keep God's will (*Nehemiah 8:13-17, and notice the last words in verse 17*). Obey God and you will discover the secret of abiding joy





# **BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL..**

## **CONT....**

- ❑ **GREAT PEACE-** What a priceless reward this is – to enjoy great peace even in this world of trouble, fear and war (**Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:6-7, Psalm 119:165**)



# **BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL..**

## **CONT....**

- ❑ **THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION-** Many Christians lack the assurance of their salvation, but God wants us to know that we are eternally secure in Christ our Savior (**Colossians 3:3**)



# BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL..

## CONT....

- ❑ **ANSWERS TO PRAYER-** There is a wonderful promise in **1 John 3:22**, where we also discover why some of our prayers are not answered. If we seek to obey God, He promises to answer our prayers. What a reward!



# **BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD'S WILL..**

## **CONT....**

- ❑ **THE CONSCIOUS PRESENCE OF CHRIST-**  
The Lord is always with us, but we are only made really conscious of His presence when we are obeying Him (*Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5, John 14:21*)



# CONSEQUENCES OF DISOBEYING GOD'S WILL

- ❑ Your Disobedience To God's Will; Will Be Found Out By Others! (*"Your sins will find you out."*-*Jonah 1:7*)
  - ❑ Disobedience To God's Will; Won't Stop God From Pursuing You
  - ❑ Disobedience To God's Will; will make you lose time to fulfil the purposes of your life
  - ❑ Disobedience To God's Will; Will Not Only Affect You But Others As Well
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