

## How You Can Know The Will Of God

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2 NKJV)*

*Do not be ·shaped by [conformed to; pressed into a mold by] this ·world [age]; instead be ·changed within [transformed] by ·a new way of thinking [or **changing the way you think**; <sup>L</sup> the renewing of your mind]. Then you will be able to ·decide [discern; test and approve] what God wants for you [is God's will]; you will know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect. (Romans 12:2 EXB)*

*Don't let the world around you **squeeze you into its own mould**, but let God re-mould your minds from within, (Romans 12:2 PHILLIPS)*

*Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. (Romans 12:2 MSG)*

*...don't let yourselves be squeezed into the shape dictated by the present age. (Romans 12:2 NTE)*

### **Conformed:**

- To act in accord with the prevailing standards, attitudes, practices, of society or a group
- To be or become similar in form, nature, or character

### **Transformed:**

- To undergo a change in form, appearance, or character; (Metamorphose)
- Greek Word: *metamorphoō* (example – cocoon to butterfly)

Who/what is the understood subject of the passage above?

- **YOU don't be Conformed.**
- **But YOU be Transformed.**

According to the verbiage, who is in control of not being conformed but being transformed?

It is clear that we are in control of this process...NOT GOD.

Since He has told us to do it are we expected to do it?

## **How do we do it (Not be Conformed but be Transformed)?**

**Renewing: (of the Mind...our thinking/understanding)**

**Greek Word: *Anakainōsis*:** a renewal, renovation, complete change for the better

**Prove:**

**Greek Word: *Dokimazō***

1. To test, examine, scrutinize (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals
2. To recognize as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy

## **What is the PERFECT Will of God?**

**Greek Word: *Teleios*:**

- Brought to its end, finished
- Wanting nothing necessary to completeness
- Full grown, adult, of full age, mature

## **The Worst Way to Try to Discern the Will of God**

***For we walk by FAITH, not by SIGHT: (2 Corinthians 5:7 KJV)***

**If God expects us to walk by faith and NOT BY SIGHT, He will NEVER lead us by sight.**

He will NEVER expect us to know His will by what is revealed to our senses.

**Example:** Open doors, closed doors, fleeces, etc.

## **Three Pre-Qualifications for knowing and proving the will of God**

1. You must not be conformed to the world (think like the world.) (The world walks by sight.)
2. You must Renew your mind (think like God thinks.)
3. You must walk by faith and not by sight.

## What does it mean to walk by faith?

Faith in what?

**To Learn to walk by faith let's look at Abraham, the Father of our Faith.**

*Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of **the faith of Abraham**; who is the father of us all, (As it is written, **I HAVE MADE thee a father of many nations**,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, **that he MIGHT BECOME the father of many nations, ACCORDING TO THAT WHICH WAS SPOKEN**, So shall thy seed be. And being not **WEAK IN FAITH**, he **CONSIDERED NOT his own body now dead**, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: **He STAGGERED NOT at the promise of God through unbelief; but was STRONG IN FAITH**, giving glory to God; And being **FULLY PERSUADED** that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. (Romans 4:16-22 KJV)*

**Weak Faith:** Considers the circumstances

**Strong Faith:** Considers not the circumstances, staggers not at God's Word

### Bible Faith is NOT Blind Faith.

*While we **LOOK NOT at the things which are seen, BUT AT THE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT SEEN**: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. (2 Corinthians 4:18 KJV)*

**Faith is still LOOKING AT something. (Not with the natural eyes)**

Walking by faith is simply considering "looking at" ONLY that which God has said and not considering anything else.

Walking by faith is NOT walking in the Dark.

It is the opposite.

It is walking in the Light.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105 NKJV)*

*The entrance of Your words gives light; (Psalm 119:130 NKJV)*

## God's Word is His Will

How do you know the will of a human?

We know the will of a human by his or her words or actions.

We know his or her words or actions by seeing or hearing what they said or did.

We can't see God so we can't see His actions.

The primary way we know the will of God is by the Written Word of God.

*For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, **but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.** For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such **a voice** to him from the excellent glory, *This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. **And this voice which came from heaven we heard,** when we were with him in the holy mount. **We have also A MORE SURE WORD OF PROPHECY;** whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto **a light that shineth in a dark place,** until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that **no PROPHECY OF THE SCRIPTURE is of any private interpretation.** For the prophecy **came not** in old time **BY THE WILL OF MAN:** but holy men of God spake as they were moved **by the Holy Ghost.** (2 Peter 1:16-21 KJV)**

If the scripture didn't come by the WILL OF MAN...whose WILL did it come by?

*All scripture is given by **INSPIRATION OF GOD,** and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (2 Timothy 3:16 KJV)*

The number one way to know the will of God is by the WRITTEN WORD OF GOD!

The better you know someone the more likely you will discern what is NOT their will.

The better you get to know God, through His Written Word, the less likely you are to be deceived concerning the Will of God.

## **How Do We Renew Our Mind?**

*Do not be ·shaped by [conformed to; pressed into a mold by] this ·world [age]; instead be ·changed within [transformed] by ·A NEW WAY OF THINKING [or changing the way you think; <sup>L</sup>the renewing of your mind]. Then you will be able to ·decide [discern; test and approve] what God wants for you [is God's will]; you will know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect. (Romans 12:2 EXB)*

Walking by Faith is walking by the Word of God not by what we see.

We can only begin to think like God thinks by renewing our mind with God's thoughts which are contained in His Words.

Only when we think like God thinks can we know and prove the perfect will of God.

Thoughts come from images or words.

If your thoughts are dominated by what you see (physical evidence) you will be conformed to this world.

If your thoughts are dominated by what God says in His Written Word you will be transformed.

*And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: (Colossians 3:10 KJV)*