

(Note: In a previous message we examined God's decreed sovereign will which is **boule** in Greek; You can read it at: jesusreigns.net in the **blog** section)

Thelema/ Greek= The '**Will**', not to be conceived as a demand, but as an expression or inclination of pleasure towards that which is liked, that which pleases and creates joy. When it denotes God's will, it signifies his gracious disposition toward something, what God himself does of his own good pleasure. - Spiros Zodhiates

'Man is able to resist the will, the **thelema** of God, but whatever takes place, God's determinate counsel, **boulema**, is never prevented from fulfillment. **Thelema** suggests God's gracious design - Romans 2:18, 12:2, 15:32.' - W.E. Vine

'**Boule** is a desire based upon deliberate reason but **thelema** is based upon emotions and is God's will or desire which comes from a heart of love.' - Ephesians 1:9,11 - Kenneth Wuest

The Word of God is filled with many laws, commandments and principles that God wants us to live by for our benefit and His pleasure as Creator and loving Father. However, His desire and will (thelema) requires our consent and cooperation. God's original **thelema** for mankind was for them to live in a pristine paradise and loving relationship with Him.

God's Thelema (God's gracious design and pleased will which includes His moral will as revealed in his written Word.)

- '**Thy will** be done, on earth as it is in heaven' - Matthew 6:10
- 'Not everyone enters the kingdom, only those who **do the will** of the Father' - Matthew 7:21
- 'Whoever **does the will** of my Father in heaven is my brother, sister, mother' -Matthew 12:50
- 'Father, if it is your **will**, take this cup from me....' - Luke 12:42a
- Jesus said, 'my food (sustaining energy) is to do **the will** of him who sent me...' - John 4:34
- 'I do not seek my own will but **the will** of the Father who sent me' - John 5:30, 6:38-40
- 'Do not be foolish, but understand what the **Lord's will** is' -Ephesians 5:17-21
- 'For this is the **will of God**, your sanctification..... 1 Thessalonians 4:3

Sanctification: to be holy, set apart and dedicated for a specific purpose

*Do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were **bought at a price**; therefore **glorify God in your body and in your spirit**, which are God's.*
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV

*You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for you created all things, and **by your will** they exist and were created.* - Revelation 4:11 NKJV
(the King James version reads, '*and for **thy pleasure** they are and were created.*'

We were created by the will of God and for His pleasure. Those '**In Christ**' belong to Him, for He bought and paid for us through the **blood of Jesus** - 1 Peter 1:19. God owns us and now wants to occupy all areas of our life, which includes our spirit, soul and body.

*Now may **the God of peace** Himself **sanctify you completely**; and may your **whole spirit, soul and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* - 1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV

Wherever God takes full occupation of any place or person, there is supernatural purity, peace and pleasure. God instructed his people in the Old Testament to take possession of the land of Israel, but it would take place '**little by little**'. - Deuteronomy 7:22 God's sanctification of us or even various areas of culture is a process which takes persistence and partnership with God's Spirit and purposes.

