

The Will Of God - Sunday PM 01/14/18

Introduction:

We have all heard people say things like "It was God's will" or "Everything happens for a reason" or "God has a plan and that must have been a part of His plan" etc. We understand God is Sovereign, the Ruler of the Universe, and our Creator. This has lead some to misunderstand the ways "the will of God" is used in the Bible and what it means to us.

I) God's Direct or Decreed Will

A) What God will do or has determined

1. God determined to destroy the world by flood. *Genesis 6.7*
2. God determined to send Christ to overcome the power of Satan. *Genesis 3.15; 22.18, Galatians 3.16-18*

B) God reveals His decreed will in the Bible

1. If you want to know what God will do, look in the Bible.
2. Understand that God's decreed will not change. *Psalms 33.1*

C) Therefore we know:

1. God will destroy the world. *2 Peter 3.10*
2. There will be a Day of Judgement. *John 12.48*
3. Some will be raised to eternal condemnation and others to go to heaven. *John 5.28*
4. We cannot change God's decreed will. *1 John 5.15-17*

II) God's Expressed or Preceptive Will *Hebrews 9.19*

A) God Law states what God desires us to do

1. The Ten Commandments told the Jews what to do and what not to do.
2. The building of the ark, Noah was told what to use, the size of the ark, etc. *Genesis 6.14-18*
3. In the Garden of Eden. *Genesis 2.16-17*

B) We are told in the Law of Christ what the will of God is: *Matthew 7.21*

1. In this sense the will of God is something we are to do.
Hebrews 10.36
2. If we want God's will to be done, we must be doing it.

C) Therefore we know the will of God is revealed

1. We will be judged by our obedience to disobedience to God's will. *John 12.48, 49*
2. In a sense we can overcome the will of God by our disobedience. *2 Peter 3.9*

III) God's Permissive Will

A) What God will allow for a time without His approval

1. We have to be careful because some people think that because we have the freedom of choice and choose to do evil then either God will accept it or God is responsible.
 - a. Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?

- b. Why would God allow my child to have this birth defect?
2. God's permissive will is expressed in *Matthew 5.45*.

B) This is called freedom of choice, Joshua 24.15

1. Sometimes God is displeased by man's choices.
Romans 1.18.32
2. God allows man to sin but is not pleased.
3. God is pleased when we obey Him.

Conclusion:

What we must understand is that God wants us to be saved and has done everything for our salvation. *Romans 8:28,31*. It is our duty to obey the will of God.