

Discovering The Will of God

Three Questions

As we begin to discover the will of God, there are **three specific questions** that must be answered. The first question that we must have answered is, **“What does it mean to *know the will of God*?”** One of the reasons many people get discouraged when it comes to the will of God is that they aren’t sure just what it is they’re looking for. After all, if you were on a treasure hunt but didn’t know what kind of treasure you were looking for, not only would you not know where to look, but you may not even recognize the treasure if you did find it. So it is with the will of God; you must know what it means before you begin your search. The second question you must answer is, **“Does God have a specific plan for my life?”** Once you understand what the will of God is, you must then decide if in fact God has a plan specifically for you. This is not to say your conclusion on the matter changes the truth at all, but your decision will determine any actions you may take on this issue in the future. The third question is, **“If God does have a plan for my life, can I be certain about what that plan is?”** Does God provide you with the answers you need to know His will, or does He prefer to keep these things hidden from you in order to develop your trust in Him? The answers to these questions will be the first stage in your discovering the will of God for your life. Not only must you answer them, you must settle them in your heart once and for all. The bible tells us in the book of James that a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways, and he should not think that he will receive anything from the Lord. If we are to know the truth in these matters, then we are going to have to be steadfast in our thinking and actions.

As we move through this study, be careful not to take it too lightly. The answers you give to these questions will be the foundation you will build upon as we move through the studies in this section. Let us then take a closer look at these questions as we begin our quest of “Discovering The Will Of God.”

Three Questions

QUESTION # 1: What does it mean to “know the will of God”?

Knowing the will of God is not knowing what God knows, but rather, knowing what God wants me to know about myself, my life and my future, when He wants me to know it.

QUESTION # 2: Does God have a specific plan for my life?

YES NO

“You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breath. Every day was recorded in your book.”

Psalm 139:16 (LB)

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

1Corinthians 2:9 (NKJ)

“For I know the plans I have for you” declares the Lord. “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

QUESTION # 3: Can I know for certain what God’s will is for my life?

YES NO

“Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

Ephesians 5:17 (NKJ)

“But we know about these things because God has sent His Spirit to tell us, and His Spirit searches out and shows us all of God’s deepest secrets.”

1Corinthians 2:10 (LB)

“For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.”

Colossians 1:9 (NKJ)

“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.”

Hebrews 13:20-21 (NKJ)

NOTES

“Knowing the will of God starts with our recognition and admission of our own limitations of knowledge and understanding.”

-David Cook

“Part of knowing God’s will is the understanding that we must make decisions, and when they are the correct ones we will rejoice in it, but when they are not, we rest in the assurance that God will make it work out for our good and His purpose.”

“Knowing and doing the will of God is a constant interaction of the divine and human will through prayer and meditation, biblical and theological study, Christian counsel and group guidance which should result in intimate fellowship.”

-Samuel Southard
Theology & Therapy

“Proving what is the will of God, takes both a renewed mind and the courage to make bold decisions: Romans 12:2”

-Samuel Southard
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