

PERFECT WILL OF GOD

ROMANS 12:1-2

Text: Romans 12:1,2

(Romans 12:1-2) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. {2} And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Introduction:

Being in the ministry now for 11 years people often come to me for advice. A question often asked was: "How can I know God's will for my life?"

Let me say that is possible to prove the will of God. Of course you do not prove it to God; He already knows it. If you prove it to anyone, you prove it to yourself.

Notice with me several things on how that one can know the will of God for their life.

1. REALIZE THAT GOD HAS A VERY DEFINITE PURPOSE AND WILL FOR YOUR LIFE.

A. One will never get serious about seeking God's will until he is thoroughly convinced that such a will exists.

Illustration:

Fishing story. Not catching there must be no fish in the lake. So it wouldn't take me long to lay my pole down and start playing or throwing rocks in the water. After a while you would hear someone yell get a net I've got a big one. You could feel the excitement. And then you see them bring in a big fish. All of a sudden fishing took a new meaning. I became excited about it. And in no time I had baited my hook and was ready to fish. I was sure now there were fish in the lake.

B. When one realizes that God is personally interested in them Finding God's will takes on new meaning.

(Matthew 10:30) "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

(Exodus 3:7) "And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have

heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;"

(Psalms 56:8) "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?"

(Psalms 139:2-6) "Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. {3} Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. {4} For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. {5} Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. {6} Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it."

C. If God shows so much personal interest in each of us, we must believe that He has a very definite plan and purpose for our lives.

2. WE MUST HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD'S WILL

(John 7:17) "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."

A. No one ever discovers God's will out of curiosity, but rather determine to do God's will even before we know it.

1. Some today are guilty of saying, "Lord let me know Your will so I can decide whether or not I will do it."

3. THERE MUST BE AN ABSOLUTE SURRENDER TO GOD

(Romans 12:1-2) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. {2} And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

A. To know God's will you must be available.

1. To be available means to be accessible.

Illustration:

To many believers have DO NOT DISTURB signs hanging on doorknobs in various areas of their lives.

2. Being available also means being acceptable

(Romans 12:1) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living

sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

(Psalms 66:18) "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:"

(Proverbs 28:13) "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

3. Being available also means being adaptable.

- We must be willing to adapt our plans to His.

4. WHEN IN DOUBT, PLAY IT SAFE

(Romans 14:23) "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

(Romans 14:5) "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."

Illustration:

Is this shirt dirty, the wife responded, if it's doubtful it's dirty.

5. DO YOU HAVE PEACE ABOUT THE MATTER

(1 Corinthians 14:33) "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

(Colossians 3:15) "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful."

Illustration: Buying a car

6. WALK IN THE LIGHT THAT YOU ALREADY HAVE

Never is there a time in the believers' life when we can see all God has planned, because the Christian life is a life of faith. However God gives everyone of us sufficient light to take the next step.

(Psalms 119:105) "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Illustration:

A miner not taking another step in the mine shaft until he could see the end of the shaft. He would never take another step. Unless he walks in the light that he

already has he will never receive more light. But as he walks in the light he will find a light moving out in front of him. The more he walks the more the light will move.

7. LET YOUR DESIRES HELP DETERMINE GOD'S WILL

A. If our lives are surrendered to Christ, He will give us right desires.

(Psalms 37:4) "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

(Philippians 2:13) "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

8. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ABLE TO GUIDE US

(Romans 8:14) "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

A. Many things are made plain to us from Scripture so we need not ask God's will about them.

1. Salvation

(2 Peter 3:9) "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is

longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

2. Soul winning

(Mark 16:15) "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

3. Tithing

(Leviticus 27:30) "And all the tithes of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD."

B. God never leads contrary to His Word.

Close:

Many things are already settled for us in the Word of God. But where the Bible is not specific, God will show us His will.

God's will doesn't necessarily mean change. You may already be doing what God wants you to do.

Success is knowing God's will and doing it.