

## Knowing the Will of God

*“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is” Ephesians 5:17*

So often we have to make a decision between two choices or several for that matter. They can be all good choices, but there comes a point when we need to ask our selves, what’s my will and what’s God’s? As little children the choice was very simple; either you did what you were told, or you could choose the consequences of disobeying. However, as adults, we have many complicated choices to make that are so often life changing. How can we know God’s will in the matter?

**First**, we must be empty of our own self will and desire to know the mind of the Lord. Proverbs 14:12 says, *“There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof is death.”* But God’s way leads to life (John 14:6). We must desire and pray, *“not my will, but thine, be done,”* it is only then God can show us His way and will for our lives.

**Secondly**, God puts desires and goals in our hearts, so that we can accomplish them. *“For it is God that worketh in you, both to will and to do of His good pleasure” (Phil 2:13).* Here we see that it is God who works in our heart to want to do His will. *“Having made known unto us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself” (Eph1:9)* He makes known unto us His will, which, at times can be a mystery. The question then lies before us, “how do I know that this is God’s will, and not my own?” In Romans 7:18, Paul said, *“For I know that in me (that is in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing.”* Jeremiah said, *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”* I cannot recall one time that my flesh wanted to do anything that was right; neither in all of history can one recall when man (the flesh) sought after God to do His will. We have, though, sought after our own ways. (Isaiah 53:6) And the flesh is always continually evil. (Gen 6:5) You can rest assure that neither your flesh nor the Devil puts in your heart the desire to do the things of God. So often we try to make the will of God complicated to know, but God’s way is simple, there is only one right way. He does not have many right “wills” for you all at one time, only one. God is not the author of confusion (I Cor14:33), but will *“direct your hearts” (II Thess 3:5)*

**Thirdly**, we should seek wisdom and counsel. *James 1:5 says, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”* We should seek the counsel of those who have a close walk with God, and give godly advice. ... *“in a multitude of counselors there is safety.” (Prov24:6).* We can make another choice to reject God’s way and forsake the counsel of the godly. What’s the end result? We’ll ruin our lives just as Rehoboam destroyed his kingdom when he rejected godly counsel.

**Finally**, let us remember that God can only use those who are fully surrendered to His perfect will. It is only then, we can experience the full blessings of God.

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