

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries 5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

THE WILL OF GOD

LESSON 7 - Return pages 6 & 7

"How Do I know The Will of GOD for my life?"

A famous preacher once said that a successful man is a man who finds out what God wants him to accomplish with his life and then fulfills it. That is a very profound statement. The true measure of a man's success is not his social status or bank account, or his influence and fame. It is simply in doing what God wants him to do.

The purpose of this lesson is to give the individual a clear understanding of what the will of God is, as revealed in the Bible, and to motivate him/her to begin living out that will (plan) on a daily basis.

The greatest joy in a Christian's life is to know that he is pleasing God by doing His will. Jesus is the ultimate example of this (Hebrews 10:7; Matthew 3:17). What a blessing it is to know that you are exactly where God wants you to be as a Christian and doing exactly what He wants you to do in this life. But before you can experience God's blessing in His perfect will, you must know what His will is. Many believers are unsure of God's plan for them (sadly, others don't care what that plan is), and consequently, they lead unsuccessful and unhappy lives in the eyes of God.

IT IS THE WILL OF GOD THAT ALL BE SAVED

Matthew 7:21, Mark 3:35, and I John 2:17 indicate that we are saved by "doing" the will of God. John 6:40 and II Peter 3:9 tells us that this will is to believe on the Lord and to repent of our sin, which He wants "all" to do.

II. IT IS THE WILL OF GOD THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN BE SANCTIFIED

I Thessalonians 4:1-7 tells us that we can only be in God's will <u>IF</u> we are living clean holy lives in our thoughts, motives, and actions. If a Christian is not living a sanctified life (which is a pure life that is separated from evil), then God is not pleased with them nor can He bless them with His future plan.

III. IT IS THE WILL OF GOD THAT YOU THANK GOD IN EVERYTHING

I Thessalonians 5:18 - "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Eph 5:20-21

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

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21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

IV. IT IS THE WILL OF GOD THAT YOU OBEY THE GOVERNMENT 1 Pet 2:13-15

13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

V. IT IS THE WILL OF GOD THAT YOU BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST

Rom 8:28-29

- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
- For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Eph 4:13-15
- 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
 (KJV)

VI. IT IS THE WILL OF GOD FOR YOU TO KNOW THE WILL OF GOD

Ephesians 5:17 - "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

- A. The Lord not only wants you to know the commands concerning His will, but He also wants you to know His will in your daily plans and choices (I Corinthians 4:19; James 4:15). This discerning of God's will takes much wisdom James 1:5).
- B. To know God's will from day to day, you must first be totally committed to His desires not yours (I Peter 4:2). This is a commitment not just outwardly but of the heart (Ephesians 6:6).
- C. Realize that God shows us what His will is day to day, not way down the road. Do what you know to do today, and God will show you the rest when you are ready. He leads us in life as one would shine a flashlight on a

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path in the darkness. The light never reveals the path way down the road, but one step at a time. (Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 4:18)

- D. 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.
- 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.

To know God's will you must first present your body to Him totally submissive to whatever He would lead you to do. Then, if you will stay clean

(Romans 12:2 - "be not conformed") He will "renew your mind." Your mind is "renewed" by the word of God and prayer. Therefore, you cannot know God's will if you are not praying and reading the Bible. However if you will do this, you are able to "prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

- E. Through the information given thus far you can find out what "vocation" God has "called" you to (Ephesians 4:1). Over and over, Paul tells us he was "called to be an apostle by the will of God". God does have a place in life that only you can fill...so find that place of service and serve.
- F. You can "complete" God's will for your life (Colossians 4:12), and the Holy Spirit is praying that you will do just that (Romans 8:27).
- G. Ephesians 5: 15-17 We are to redeem the time. Quit wasting time! Make use of the small amount God has given you.

VII. IS IT GOD'S WILL THAT WE SUFFER?

- A. God will allow suffering in the lives of His children to perfect them. I Peter 3:15-18; II Corinthians 12:6-10, I Peter 5: 10. From Lesson One we learned that our Heavenly Father will never make a mistake in His dealings with His sons. It has often been said, "He is too wise to make a mistake and too loving to be unkind."
- B. God usually allows men to make their own choices in life, both good and bad (though He always gives ample direction to help them choose the best way). 1 Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.
 - 1. Paul's trip to Jerusalem Acts 21:4-14. God warned him three times not to go, but then allowed him to make the choice to go, even though it meant being beaten and imprisoned.
 - 2. David God is certainly not in favor of adultery. But he allowed David to make his own choices, the consequences of which were bitter and painful.
 - 3. Man has a free will. God offers salvation and lays down the principles for a godly life; but if a man exercises the free will God has given him and

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rejects salvation, God permits that man's free will to be exercised, and the man suffers the eternal consequences of his choices.

Galatians 6:7-8. Psalm 106:15

VIII. How can I find God's specific direction in my life?

Three things must be functioning in the life of a Christian for him to fulfill God's will and receive His direction.

- A. The Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit, which indwells every believer, must have free course in your life to direct you. Galatians 5:25; John 16: 13; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10
- B. The Word of God. The Word of God is your absolute authority in every detail of your life. You must learn to saturate your mind with God's thoughts. Philippians 2:5; Romans 12:I-2; Isaiah 55:6-11
- C. The local church. The local church is organized to equip Christians for ministry. Ephesians 4:11-12
- 1) Maintain a right relationship with the church (i.e. membership, active participation and support, etc.).
 - 2) Exercising spiritual gifts in needed area of service and ministry.

IX. How does God give His direction in details of my life?

- A. You must be in conformity to the general will of God before He will direct you in the specifics of life. Your priority should be to fulfill the general will of God in your daily life, and then trust Him to guide you in the detailed plan, step by step.
- B. God is infinitely more interested in your being the type of person He wants you to be in your doing for Him certain deeds and works. Be what He wants you to be, and He will show you what to do, as well as enable you to do it.

X. Summary

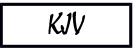
The will of God is ultimately the same for every person on earth, to be conformed to the image of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 8:28-29; John 17:20-23; Ephesians 4:13-15.

XI. Basic question

Why doesn't God reveal all of the details of His direction for me now?

- It would overwhelm you before you got started.
- You may not be equipped to handle it yet.
- You may not be the type of person God wants you to be yet.
- God will reveal what you can handle when you can handle it, He will equip and empower you to do it.

This is illustrated by the old question asked of children, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" If all the five-year olds in America were surveyed on this



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question, then forced to stick with their answer, in 20 years there would be nothing but fireman, policemen, and nurses. As time goes on and you grow spiritually, your interests, talents, and desires will grow and change. Be patient and wait on God while fulfilling His specific will for you life.

XII. CONCLUSION

God will work His will out in you life for <u>your good</u> if you will please Him by following Him and the plan that He has for your life.

NOTES

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THE WILL OF GOD Lesson 7

Name					
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- 1. Give me 2 verses that prove that God wants us to thank Him for everything. From the Old testament give me some examples where people 2. disobeyed the will of God. 3. Briefly explain the first aspect of God's will. According to I Peter 5:10, God allows Christians to go through suffering 4. so that they might be more Using Psalm 119:105 - Give us a practical example how God show's us 5. His will.
- 6. Using the information contained in this lesson, explain the definition of Romans 8:28 and for extra credit explain the 21st. century Christian view of this verse, and why that view is harmful to the maturity of that Christian?
- 7. Since 1 Peter 2:13-15 is true, who should we be obeying?
- 8. Explain Colossians 4:12.
- 9. Explain these terms:
 - by the will of God

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- be not conformed
- · Submit yourself to every ordinance
- free will

10.	What are 3 t	hings that	must be	active in	the Chri	stian's l	life to	receive
God's	s direction?							

Α.

B.

C.

- 11. Why is going to Church so important for knowing God's will in your life?
- 12. Let's us suppose that a man/woman rejects the will of God, what is that man/woman's final outcome?
- 13. Lets suppose a Christian rejects the will of God, what is that Christian's final outcome?
- 14. Why doesn't God show me everything when I first get saved?

Scripture memorization: Write these verses on the back of this page. Romans 12:1-2, I Peter 3:17; II Peter 3:9

True/False (explain your answer)

- God has predetermined what will happen (fate) and man's free will has no bearing on the matter.
- Christians are not supposed to be sick or suffering, if they are in the will of God.