

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL?

Colossians 1:9-14

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1. God's will is defined by the Scriptures

It is God's will that:

A. You are saved 2 Peter 3:9

2 Peter 3:9 "the Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish**, but that all should come to repentance."

1 Timothy 2:4 "who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

B. You are filled with the Holy Spirit Ephesians 5:15-18

Ephesians 5:17-18 "Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what **the will of the Lord is**. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit."

C. You are sanctified 1 Thessalonians 4:3

1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 "For **this is the will of God**, your sanctification that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor..."

D. You submit to authority 1 Peter 2:13, 15

1 Peter 2:13-15 "Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake whether to the king as supreme or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. **For this is the will of God**, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men..."

E. Suffering may be experienced 1 Peter 4:19

1 Peter 4:19 "Therefore let those who suffer **according to the will of God** commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator."

F. You pray, rejoice, and give thanks 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for **this is the will of God** in Christ Jesus for you."

2. God's will can be discerned by believers

A. Spiritual wisdom

B. Spiritual understanding

Philippians 2:12-13 "Therefore my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

C. Spiritual willingness

John 7:17 "If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority."

3. God's will can be affirmed through God's confirmation

God provides:

A. Spiritual peace Colossians 3:15

B. Spiritual people

Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no counsel the people fall, but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Proverbs 20:18 "Plans are established by counsel; by wise counsel wage war."

C. Spiritual pointers