

UNDERSTANDING AND DOING GOD'S WILL
PART 4—WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?-PT 1
EPHESIANS 5:17

INTRODUCTION

In this series, we have been looking at the reality that **GOD HAS A WILL FOR OUR LIFE!** Accordingly, each one of us has the responsibility to both **UNDERSTAND** and **DO the WILL OF GOD** for our **LIFE!**

Tonight, let's look at some things in GOD'S WORD that are specified as GOD'S WILL for each of our lives:

I. GOD'S WILL IS FOR THE LOST TO BE SAVED!

We did touch on this briefly in our first message in this series.

But tonight, I want to delve deeper into this because of a certain **false doctrine** (called *CALVINISM*) that is popular in some circles and sadly, it is creeping into **fundamentalists** circles! **I constantly have to be on guard for it because "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump"!** (Some of the "*creeps*" we have to guard against!)

I fielded a call recently from one of this persuasion who considered himself a **fundamentalist** who was looking for a **fundamentalist** Church that he could feel comfortable in! In other words, he didn't want me countering the **false doctrine of Calvinism** with preaching!

I sent him to some specific sermons of mine online that counter that false doctrine to show him where I stand. I never heard back from him! I think he came to understand that he would not be comfortable here!

Calvinism is part of what is known as "**REFORMED THEOLOGY**", That's because that **false doctrine** comes from the "**reformer**" **John Calvin**.

My doctrines teacher at *Tennessee Temple University* where I attended Bible College was of what is known as a **5-point Calvinist!**

The **5-points of Calvinism** are expressed in the acronym **TULIP**.

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T - Total Depravity of Man

U - Unconditional Election

L - Limited Atonement (i.e. Christ died only for the elect.)

I - Irresistible Grace

P - Perseverance of the Saints.

I did not succumb to this **false doctrine** because I had been grounded in **Bible Doctrine** in a **fundamental Baptist Church!**

What does the **SCRIPTURE** say? **We will see that Christ died for ALL! And GOD'S WILL IS FOR THE LOST TO BE SAVED!**

A. The Proof Is In God's Pronouncements In Ezekiel!

Ezekiel 18:23—*"Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?"*

(That's a question that calls for a "*no, of course not!*" answer)

Ezekiel 33:11—*"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die,...?"*

(That's a clear statement of fact on the matter!)

B. The Proof Is In God's Provision In Jesus Christ His Son!

John 3:16–18—*"16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."*

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1 Timothy 4:10—“For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, **who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.**”

1 John 2:2—“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, **but also for the sins of the whole world.**”

The word translated *propitiation* means “to render favorable, to satisfy, to appease.”

Romans 3:25—“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a *propitiation* through faith in his blood.”

1 John 4:14— “And we have seen and do testify that **the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.**”

GOD'S WILL IS FOR THE LOST TO BE SAVED!

C. **The Proof Is In God's Longsuffering Revealed By The Apostle Peter!**

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.**”

D. **The Proof Is In God's Will And Provision Revealed By The Apostle Paul!**

1 Timothy 2:4-6—“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 **Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.**”

Romans 10:8-17

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II. **THE WILL OF GOD IS FOR THE SAVED TO BE SANCTIFIED.** (*1 Thessalonians 4:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2:9-11*)
We must not be guilty of asking the LORD for further directions until our lives are free and clear from all known sin in our lives.

GOD'S will is for ALL who are SAVED to be or live HOLY.

The PSALMIST DAVID said a young man could **cleanse his way by taking heed to the WORD!**

Psalm 119:9—“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? **By taking heed thereto according to thy word.**”

In that same PSALM, he also said that he hid GOD'S WORD in his heart to keep himself from sinning against GOD:

Psalm 119:11—“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, That I might not sin against thee.”

And in that same PSALM, he said that WORD lighted his path!

Psalm 119:105— “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, And a light unto my path.”

JESUS said that SANCTIFICATION comes THROUGH the WORD OF GOD!

John 17:17—“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

We know from the APOSTLE PAUL'S writings to TIMOTHY that the BIBLE has a **four-fold profitability in our lives!**

(*2 Timothy 3:16 says it is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness.*)

The BIBLE warns us of danger...that's why we need to be students of the BIBLE! *Psalm 19:11*—“Moreover by them is thy servant warned:” (e.g. The robot on “Lost In Space” Mr. Smith & Will)

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Only through the **WORD OF GOD** will we ever bring our life into alignment with **GOD’S WILL** for our lives!

It is a **FACT** that **WE WHO ARE SAVED HAVE BEEN SANCTIFIED IN CHRIST JESUS!** (That is our **POSITION** from being **IN CHRIST!**)

1 Corinthians 1:2 (Cf. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

The **LORD** wants our **PRACTICE** to conform more to our **POSITION!**

Romans 8:29—“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.”

Let me remind you that one day, **EVERY ONE OF US WHO IS “IN CHRIST” IS ALSO EVENTUALLY GOING TO BE LIKE CHRIST!**

1 John 3:2–3—“2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”

CONCLUSION

How are you doing with the will of God that the Word of God specifically dictates?

Are you saved?

Are you being sanctified?

Are you in the place of God’s choosing or your own?

Are you seeking by the power of the Holy Spirit to bring your life into line with the truth that you know?