

Codes for the Will:

Discovering God's Specific Will

Message By Ken Baugh

Opening Question:

Currently, is there an area in your life where you are looking for God's specific will?

Why the Bible is Important in Determining God's Will

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17

2 Timothy 3:16-17 and the Expressed Will of God

Why is it essential that we believe God inspired all Scripture?

"Inspiration simply means that all words of the Bible are God's Words."

What is means did God use to breath His Words? (Jeremiah 1:9; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

Does the fact that God used men to record his words make scripture any less reliable or authoritative?

"Behold, I have put My words in your mouth" **Jeremiah 1:9**

"...no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

2 Peter 1:20-21

"In cases where the ordinary human personality and writing style of the author were prominently involved, as seems the case with the major part of Scripture, all that we are able to say is that God's providential oversight and direction of the life of each author was such that their personalities, their backgrounds and training, their abilities to evaluate events in the world around them, their access to historical data, their judgment with regard to the accuracy of information, and their individual circumstances when they wrote, were all exactly what God wanted them to be, so that when they actually came to the point of putting pen to paper, the words were fully their words but also fully the words that God wanted them to write, words that God would also claim as his own."

Dr. Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, 81.

What do each of the following words mean and how what do they tell us of the purpose of the Word of God?

Teaching

Rebuking

Correcting

"The Bible would be a punitive document if it only rebuked and corrected the saints. Fortunately, it also offers information, actions, and exercises that help us grow. It guides our development, preparing us for the new life to which we have been called. None of these benefits can be reaped if you don't read your bible. It is God's immediate tool for shaping your life. It is how the Lord chose to reveal Himself to humankind in our day. There is no better way to know and experience God than through His living Word, for it is His fundamental revelation instructing us." Dr. Bruce Waltke, Finding The Will Of God, 61

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.

²Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2

"It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit."

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

¹⁶Be joyful always; ¹⁷pray continually; ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men."

1 Peter 2:13-15

What does it mean to be "trained in righteousness?"

How does this training relate to Romans 12:1-2 and Philippians 2:12-13?

God's Will Revealed in Scripture

Where does God's Word clearly define His will our lives?

1. It is God's will that avoid sexual immorality. (1 Thess. 4:3-8)
2. It is God's will that I am joyful always. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)
3. It is God's will that I pray constantly. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)
4. It is God's will that I give thanks in all circumstances. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)
5. It is God's will that I submit to all authority. (1 Peter 2:13-15)

Is there a place in one of these five areas where you are missing the will of God in your life?

What can you do to embrace and follow the revealed will of God for your life?