



The Journey

Lesson #10

The Will of God

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**Tell me what you know about the
will of God?**





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)

- ❑ Matt 26:39 He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."
- ❑ Acts 4:27 "In fact, this has happened here in this very city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. 28 But everything they did was determined beforehand according to your will.





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)

- There are some things that are too important to be left open to anyone other than God.
- God's redemptive plan must be, and will be carried out.
- I am thankful redemption is totally in God's providential hands.





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)

☐ Isa 53:10 *But it was the Lord's good plan to crush him and cause him grief.* Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the Lord's good plan will prosper in his hands.

☐ Nothing will prevent God's decreed will from coming to pass.





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)

- ❑ Consider these and make some sense of it:
 - ❑ The crucifixion of Christ was the will of God.
 - ❑ Crucifying an innocent man was sin.
 - ❑ God sometimes wills things that are sinful?





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)

- 1 Peter 3:17 Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!
- Again we see that sometimes the will of God involves the commission of sin or unjust suffering against his people.
- We don't want to think in those terms, but you would have to twist the scriptures to conclude otherwise.





God's Sovereign (Decreed Will)

- ❑ Dan 4:35 All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him. *He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth.* No one can stop him or say to him, 'What do you mean by doing these things?'

- ❑ We should all sleep better at night precisely because the sovereign will of God cannot be thwarted.





God's Declared Will





God's Declared Will

- ❑ God's declared will is comprised of the directives we have in the Bible.
- ❑ "The Word of God is the will of God." Warren Wiersbe
- ❑ Unlike the decreed will of God that cannot not come to pass, His declared will can, and often is, disobeyed and thwarted by man.





God's Declared Will

- Matt 7:21 "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter."
- If entrance is based the doing of God's will and not all enter, then we know by inference that God's declared will can be resisted and disobeyed.
- If we apply Jesus' standard to sin (even thinking it) then we all disobey the declared will of God daily.





God's Declared Will

- 1 Thess 4:3 God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin.*
- 1 Thess 5:18 Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*
- 1 John 2:17 The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*





God's Specific Will for You





God's Specific Will for You

- We have the decreed will of God that is going to happen just as He has decreed.
- We have the declared will of God that is all of the things he wants us to do, or not do.
- And then we have God's specific will for your life and there is a hierarchy to His will – Decreed, Declared, and His Specific will for every person.





God's Specific Will for You

- Ps 139:14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. 15 You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. 16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.
- We've been constructed as we are, with an array of natural abilities and then spiritual gifts for a purpose.





God's Specific Will for You

- What is God's will for your occupation, your choice of a spouse or not, your place of residence, and hundreds of other decisions we make?
- For those willing to ask, God will lead in all of life's decisions and the closer we are to Him the more likely we are to know where He is leading.
- We tend to fall into two groups – one that pays no attention to His leading and one that does.





God's Specific Will for You

- Truth #1 – God will never lead you to make a decision in your personal life that will be in conflict with His word.
- Truth #2 – what you become through the decisions you make is usually more important than what you do.
- Truth #3 – the general will of God for all is that we become like Jesus.





God's Specific Will for You

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 29 For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.





God's Permissive Will





God's Permissive Will

- There are a lot awful things that happen to innocent people in plain sight of God.
- He is more than capable of stopping anything from happening.
- When He does not intervene to stop sin it is not because He can't, but because He chooses not to.





Questions

