

A WILL TO DO GOD'S WILL

Jhn 7:14-18

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Define WILL: to wish or desire, to resolve upon as an action or course, determined to do, the power of conscience deliberate action. That which has been resolved or determined upon; a purpose
- B. Will power is the back bone of man's moral and spiritual faculties. It is an unswerving determination to do what is right. It is the force that gives value to purpose it is the inward strength that gives one power to execute ones decisions. (Boyce)

DISCUSSION:

I. WILL TO DO GOD'S WILL NECESSARY FOR ACCEPTABLE OBEDIENCE

- A. In this way we can know of the teaching whether it is from God or men Jhn 7:17
 - 1. WILL: Verb shows action - determine purpose or intend
 - 2. HIS WILL: noun that which is willed the will of God hence unchanging
 - 3. AMPLIFIED VERSION: "If any man desires to do God's pleasure"
- B. Ask, seek and knock Matt 7:7
- C. The will of the Lord be done
 - 1. Paul's companions Acts 21:13,14
 - 2. The Lord willing Jas 4:13-15
 - 3. Jesus came to do the will of God Heb 10:7
 - 4. Not my will but thine be done Lk 22:42

II. WILL TO DO GOD'S WILL INVOLVES INTENTIONS

- A. INTENTION: "A settled direction of the mind toward the doing of a certain act"; also denotes purpose and design. Example: Matt 21:28-32 Parable of two sons
- B. God's word able to discern intents of heart Heb 4:12
- C. Examples of wrong intentions
 - 1. Jewish council intended to stop the apostles from preaching the gospel Acts 5:33-35
 - 2. Herod intended to bring Peter before people Acts 12:1-4
 - 3. Those who "will". (intend to) be rich 1Tim 6:9
 - 4. "Will" be a friend of the world Jas 4:4
- D. Examples of good intentions
 - 1. "Intend" to obey God rather than men Acts 5:29
 - 2. Preach the gospel to the lost so their blood will not be on our head Acts 20:26,27 (Paul did)

- 3. It's not enough to have good intentions but we must carry them out with purpose and determination
- 4. Someone has said that the road to failure (hell) is paved with good intentions; however, without them we could never do right.

III. CARRYING OUT INTENTIONS REQUIRES PURPOSE OF HEART?

- A. PURPOSE: "To have or place before oneself as an aim or intent; determine, resolve or intend; having a fixed design or determination.
- B. Scriptures showing the use of the word
 - 1. God raised up Pharaoh for a purpose Rom 9:17
 - 2. God predestinated according to his purpose that the obedient would have life Eph 1:11
 - 3. God purposed that his wisdom would be made known through the church Eph 3: 10,11
 - 4. Jesus appeared unto Paul for the purpose of making him a minister and a witness Acts 26:16
- C. Some things we should purpose to do
 - 1. David purposed that his mouth should not transgress Psa 17: 3
 - 2. With purpose of heart cleave to Lord Acts 11:23
 - 3. Purpose to assemble with the saints Heb 10:25
 - 4. Purpose to know his will Jhn 7:17
 - 5. Purpose to do his will Matt 7:21
 - 6. Purpose to Give and give as purposed 2Cor 9: 7

CONCLUSION:

- A. In this lesson we have tried to show that our will must become the same as the will of God) and his will is unchanging therefore, ours must conform to his and not his to ours.
- B. That our hearts may be right let us be sure that our intentions and purposes are right and be determined to carry them out.
- C. Read again Jhn 7:17 If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself. (NAS95)