

PROVING THE WILL OF GOD

ROMANS 12:2

INTRODUCTION:

1. Christians always ought to have the same commitment to the will of God as Jesus expressed in the garden. (Matt. 26.39)
2. The will of God is not kept a mystery, but is fully revealed that all may know, understand, and submit to it.
3. **ROMANS 12.2:** “...that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

I. THE WILL OF GOD IS GOOD

- A. The will of God conforms to all that is good
 1. Many have the wrong idea of what is good. (Mal. 2.17)
 2. However, if man is in sin, it is not because of a failing of the will of God, but man makes a choice. (Rom. 7.7-12)
- B. Through submission to the will of God man is made to be good. (1 Tim. 1.8-11)

II. THE WILL OF GOD IS ACCEPTABLE

- A. Acceptable: “Well-pleasing, agreeable” [STRONG].
 1. Submitting to the will of God is reasonable. (Rom. 12.1)
 2. It is not tedious, nor too difficult. (1 John 5.3)
- B. Only when one submits to the acceptable will of God that they become accepted by God. (2 Tim. 2.15; Eph. 1.6)
 1. Everyone has their own idea of what is acceptable to God imposing on Him man’s ways. (Isa. 55.8,9)
 2. **ACTS 10.35:** “*But in every nation, everyone who fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.*”

III. THE WILL OF GOD IS PERFECT

- A. In every sense of the word, the will of God lacks nothing.
 1. It is complete needing no additions or so-called latter-day Revelations. (Acts 20.27; 2 Pet. 1.3; Deut. 29.29)
 2. It is flawless as it does not possess any of the mistakes that characterize human writings. (Ps. 18.30; Isa. 55.10,11)
- B. The perfection of the will of God results in the perfection of those who submit to it. (2 Tim. 3.16,17)
 1. The will of God makes us wise. (Ps. 119.99,100)
 2. The will of God keeps us pure. (Ps. 119.133)

CONCLUSION: We prove the will of God by living it.

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MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS :	9:00AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP:	9:50AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP:	6:00PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS	7:30PM

*Worshipping
God “in Spirit
and truth”
(John 4.23)*

OCTOBER 18TH, 2009

“YEAH, THERE’S AN APP FOR THAT”

Have you seen those commercials for the Apple iPhone? This amazing device works as a phone, mp3 player, and can do literally thousands of tasks both useful and entertaining. It seems there is nothing it cannot do. For everyone who comes up with a task to be performed, the reply comes back, Yeah, there’s an app for that.”

The Bible is equally as amazing. A book containing writings which span more than 4000 years would seem to be outdated and irrelevant by now, but it still able to make man “*perfect, thoroughly equipped for every good work*”

Perusing the pages of the inspired word will reveal “*everything that pertains to life and godliness*” (2 Pet. 1.3). It can be readily applied to every aspect of our lives, from our occupations, to our health, to theological, and everything in between. Are you having problems within the family? Yeah, there’s an app for that (Eph. 6.1-4). Are you confused about the nature and structure of the church? Yeah, there’s an app for that (Matt. 16.18). Do we need to know how to invest your money? Yeah, there’s an app for that too (Matt. 6.19-21).

How gratifying to know that we have a Bible that we can carry around with us just like we carry around our mobile devices that will help us to handle every issue that we encounter. Indeed, “*all scriptures are given by the inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...*” Do you need salvation and the hope of eternal life? Yeah, there’s an app for that. CLP

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INTRODUCTION:

1. Everyone serves either God or Satan. And the one we serve depends upon whose will we choose to obey. (Rom. 6.16)
2. Compelling the Roman Christians to transform themselves, they would then prove that the will of God was perfect. (Rom. 12.1,2)
3. However, before we prove the will of God it is essential to “*understand what the will of the Lord is.*” (Eph. 5.17)

I. THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD’S WILL

- A. God’s will consists of that which He desires to accomplish.
 1. Both on an individual and universal scale, God sets out to accomplish His will. (Acts 21.14; James 4.13-16)
 2. Therefore His will is irresistible. (Rom. 9.19; Ps. 115.3)
- B. God’s will is defined as that which God requires of man.
 1. Revealed in His word, stated in commands, and is understandable in all matters. (Col. 1.9; Eph. 5.17)
 2. Without knowledge we can never please God. (John 7.17)

II. THE WILL OF GOD IS SOMETHING THAT WE DO

- A. Submitting to the will of God requires action on the part of the individual. (Eph. 6.6; 1 John 2.17; 1 Pet. 4.2)
 1. Not a list of do’s and don’ts that can be checked off, but a way of life and pattern of behavior. (Rom. 12.1,2)
 2. With knowledge of God’s will some choose to submit to the will of Satan. (Rom. 2.18; Luke 12.47; John 8.44)
- B. However, without obeying the will of God there can be no fellowship with Christ. (Mark 3.35; Matt. 7.21)

III. WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU?

- A. **MICAH 6.8:** “*He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you...?*”
- B. The will of God is clearly shown.
 1. Live pure and free from sin. (1 Thes. 4.3; Eph. 5.11)
 2. Be thankful for the blessings of God. (1 Thes. 5.18)
 3. Submit to governing authorities. (1 Pet. 2.13-15)
 4. Share the faith to the world. (John 6.38-40; 2 Pet. 3.9)
 5. Worship that is in spirit and truth. (John 4.23,24)

CONCLUSION: The will of God is within our grasp.

DO ALL THINGS WITHOUT COMPLAINING

“Do all things without murmuring and disputing,” (Phil. 2:14). There is an attitude or spirit that can develop within us, of performing duty but complaining every step of the way. This kind of misbehavior is common among children, who do their chores or pick up the toys, but argue and complain while doing the job. They do the job (usually halfway) but with an expressive, grudging spirit. The work is punctuated by constant bickering, complaining and protest (sometimes prominently displayed in the countenance).

Such immaturity has become the habitual comportment of some adults. They come to the church building; they partake of the Lord’s Supper; they give – even if a token amount, since they disagree with the budget; they refrain from “the big sins,” and may help folks when opportunity is unavoidable. Yet most of this performance of duty is accompanied by conspicuous grumbling. (The word “murmurings” in this text is often used in the Septuagint, of the murmurings of the Israelites during their wanderings.)

We ought to be very happy to do all God has instructed us to do, including the difficult, challenging assignments and the necessary patience with our brethren. If there are real offenses or problems people create, the New Testament tells us how to deal with those things, promptly and properly. To let yourself slip into the habit of constant picking, bickering and protest is unpleasant, unsociable, ungodly and unproductive. Consider just that last observation: unproductive. No good is accomplished! When we complain, argue and spread pessimisms, no spiritual good is accomplished.

We ought to maintain a cheerful, willing mind, as we do what God has instructed. “*Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life...*” (Phil. 2:14-16a).

[Warren E. Berkley]