

God the Father
The Will of God
Mt. 26:39-44

Introduction:

It is important that we follow the will of God. In order to follow it, we must know what His will is. By following His will, we ensure ourselves a home in heaven for eternity.

- I. We have examples of those in the New Testament who were obedient to the will of the Father.
 - A. Jesus was concerned about doing the will of God.
 1. **John 5:30** – "I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."
 2. **John 6:38** – "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."
 3. Jesus was even obedient to the will of God in death.
 - a. **Mt. 26:36-46**
 - b. **Phil. 2:8** – "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."
 - B. Paul was concerned about doing the will of God.
 1. **Acts 16:6-10**
 2. **Acts 21:14**
 - a. The brethren were trying to persuade Paul not to go to Jerusalem.
 - b. So when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, "The will of the Lord be done."
 3. **Rom. 1:10** – Paul wanted to go to the church in Rome if it was the will of God.
 4. **Rom 15:32** – "that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you."
 - C. We also need to be obedient to the will of God.
- II. In order to be obedient to the will of God, we must know His will.
 - A. If we are going to know His will, we must study His word.
 1. **II Tim 3:16-17** – "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, { 17 } that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."
 2. **II Tim 2:15** – "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
 3. **I Pet 3:15** – "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be

ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;”

- B. As we study the will of God through His word, we notice that it is possible to go against the will of God.
 - 1. Many people teach that it is impossible to go against the will of God.
 - 2. **Luke 7:30** – “But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.”

- III. Knowing and doing the will of God will lead to salvation.
 - A. It is the will of God that everyone should have eternal salvation.
 - 1. **II Pet 3:9** – “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”
 - 2. **I Tim 2:3-4** – “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, {4} who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”
 - 3. **Matt 18:14** – “Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”
 - B. Knowing the will of God is not enough; we must also be obedient to it.
 - 1. **Matt 7:21** – “Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”
 - 2. **I Jn 2:17** – “And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”
 - 3. **Heb 10:36-37** – “For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: {37} For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.”
 - C. We must DO the will of God!

Conclusion:

God tells us exactly what His will is: that all men should be saved. However, God gave us a free will. We have the opportunity to either obey Him or not. He is not going to force His will on us in this lifetime. However, if we do not obey Him on this earth, we will be punished. **Luke 12:47** (Jesus telling the story of a servant obeying his master) – “And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.” Are we doing the will of God?