

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

THE WILL OF GOD**LESSON 7**

Return pages 5 & 6

“How Do I know The Will of GOD for my life ?”

A famous preacher once said that a successful man is a man who finds out what God wants him to accomplish with his life and then fulfills it. That is a very profound statement. The true measure of a man's success is not his social status or bank account, or his influence and fame. It is simply in doing what God wants him to do.

The purpose of this lesson is to give the individual a clear understanding of what the will of God is, as revealed in the Bible, and to motivate him/her to begin living out that will (plan) on a daily basis.

I. What the will of God is NOT:

A. The will of God is not physical, but spiritual. It is never connected with a set of rules, a geographical location, or a specific ministry.

B. The will of God is not to be confused with the plan of God for your life. God has a specific plan for your life individually. That plan is the specific direction God will give in individual circumstances of your life.

II. There are two aspects to the will of God, His permissive will, and His directive will.

A. The permissive will of God. It must be clearly understood that God occasionally allows things to happen He does not necessarily desire in order to accomplish some larger purpose. Examples are abundant, both in and out of scripture.

1. Occasionally, things happen in a Christian's life which do not appear to be good at the time or under the circumstances.

a. God will allow suffering in the lives of His children to perfect them, although He would usually prefer that they did not have to suffer.

I Peter 3:15-18; II Corinthians 12:6-10, I Peter 5: 10

b. From Lesson One we learned that our Heavenly Father will never make a mistake in His dealings with His sons. It has often been said, “He is too wise to make a mistake and too loving to be unkind.”

Matthew 7.1; Romans 8:28

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2. God usually allows men to make their own choices in life, both good and bad (though He always gives ample direction to help them choose the best way).

a. Paul's trip to Jerusalem - Acts 21:4-14. God warned him three times not to go, but then allowed him to make the choice to go, even though it meant being beaten and imprisoned.

b. David - God is certainly not in favor of adultery. But he allowed David to make his own choices, the consequences of which were bitter and painful.

c. Man has a free will. God offers salvation and lays down the principles for a godly life; but if a man exercises the free will God has given him and rejects salvation, God permits that man's free will to be exercised, and the man suffers the eternal consequences of his choices.

Galatians 6:7-8, Psalm 106:15

B. The General will of God.

1. There are certain things God specifically desires for every person.

a. II Peter 3:9 -God is not willing that any should perish. All lost people are out of the will of God regardless of what else they may do. (Therefore the converse of this is that it is God's will for all men to be saved.)

b. I Thessalonians 5:18 We are to be thankful in everything.

c. I Peter 2:13-15 We are to submit to the ordinances (laws) of human government.

d. Romans 12:1-2 -We are not to be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

e. I Thessalonians 4:3-7 God desires our sanctification (setting ourselves apart unto Him).

f. Ephesians 6: 5-8 Our service is to be from the heart, with pure motives, as if we were serving Jesus Christ.

g. Ephesians 5: 15-17 We are to redeem the time. Quit wasting time! Make use of the small amount God has given you.

2. Summarizing God's will for your life: ultimately, the will of God is the same for

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every person on earth, to be conformed to the image of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

a. Romans 8:28-29

b. John 17:20-23

c. Ephesians 4:13-15

III. How can I find God's specific direction in my life?

Three things must be functioning in the life of a Christian for him to fulfill God's will and receive His direction.

A. The Holy Spirit of God. - The Holy Spirit, which indwells every believer, must have free course in your life to direct you.

Galatians 5:25; John 16: 13; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

B. The Word of God. - The Word of God is your absolute authority in every detail of your life. You must learn to saturate your mind with God's thoughts.

Philippians 2:5; Romans 12:1-2; Isaiah 55:6-11

C. The local church. - The local church is organized to equip Christians for ministry. Ephesians 4:11-12

1) Maintain a right relationship with the church (i.e. membership, active participation and support, etc.).

2) Exercising spiritual gifts in needed area of service and ministry.

IV. How does God give His direction in details of my life?

A. You must be in conformity to the general will of God before He will direct you in the specifics of life. Your priority should be to fulfill the general will of God in your daily life, and then trust Him to guide you in the detailed plan, step by step.

B. God is infinitely more interested in your being the type of person He wants you to be in your doing for Him certain deeds and works. Be what He wants you to be, and He will show you what to do, as well as enable you to do it.

Basic questions.

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A. Why doesn't God reveal all of the details of His direction for me now?

1. It would overwhelm you before you got started.

2. You may not be equipped to handle it yet.

3. You may not be the type of person God wants you to be yet.

4. God will reveal what you can handle when you can handle it, He will equip and empower you to do it.

5. This is illustrated by the old question asked of children, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" If all the five-year olds in America were surveyed on this question, then forced to stick with their answer, in 20 years there would be nothing but fireman, policemen, and nurses. As time goes on and you grow spiritually, your interests, talents, and desires will grow and change. Be patient and wait on God while fulfilling His specific will for you life.

Note: A veteran missionary once said, "God's will is that which we would always choose for ourselves if only we had the wisdom to do so."

NOTES

KJV

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THE WILL OF GOD

Lesson 7

Name _____

1. List two things that the will of God is NOT:

2. God also has a specific _____ for your life, which involves His _____

3. Briefly explain the permissive will of God.

4. According to I Peter 5:10, God allows Christians to go through suffering so that they might be more:

5. God has given all men a free will, with which he can make his own choices. But when God offers an individual salvation or direction, and this is rejected, what is the result?
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.

6. God has a general will for every man. List seven things that God specifically wills for us.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.

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E.

F.

G.

7. Summarize God's will for a Christian's life. Give scripture references to support your answer.

8. What must be active in the life of a believer to fulfill God's will and receive His direction in life?

A.

B.

C.

9. Before God will give His direction (specific will) in your life, what must be taking place?

10. Briefly explain the difference between the general will of God and the specific will (or plan) of God.

11. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson.

Key memory verses: Write these verses on the back of this page.

Romans 12:1-2, I Peter 3:17; II Peter 3:9

True/False (explain your answer)

- The will of God has to do with physical and/or geographical matters.
- God has predetermined what will happen (fate) and man's free will has no bearing on the matter.
- Problems in a Christian's life are always the result of sin in his life.