

The Will of God!

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The 'will of God' in this life is for us to have our happiness, our peace, health, and all things needed for happiness. When God created man in the Garden of Eden, His main object was that we should have His very happiness.

One great expression of God's will for us to be perfectly happy, is the gift of His Son. God sent His Son to this earth to restore what we lost through Adam's sin and rebellion.

That great work, that Jesus did for us on the Cross, took away all our sin, sorrow, disease, poverty and all other troubles and placed God with His love, mercy, power, wisdom, and all that He could possibly do, at our side for us to take advantage of, any time of the day or night.

God is intensely eager for us to have our peace and happiness while we are here in this life. God loves us as He loves His only Son. His love is a pure, unselfish love, that will do the best He can for His loved ones.

There are two lessons that we need to learn to enjoy the fullness of this blessing and the happiness that Jesus died to give to us. The first is that we are to follow God's Word as He directs in every circumstance in this life. God has a plan written out in His Word for us to follow. It tells us exactly, how to meet every issue in this life, and just to the extent that we follow it, we will find that peace and happiness that He has waiting for us.

The second is for us to fully surrender our lives and will to God and accept every plan that He has laid out for us to follow in His Word. This will enable God to take full possession of us by His Spirit, and to be transformed into the very image of Him that created Him: Colossians 3:10, "*put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*"

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God, as Romans 12:1-2 tells us, "*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*"

We are not to be conformed to this world, but to be transformed. We are to be holy, in the way we act, in our speech and in the way we dress. We are to be kind, and compassionate. Colossians 3:8 tells us to "*put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.*"

We don't follow the world in style or dress, we are different. That is why our school has dress codes, they show that we are a Christian school; we are different from the world. Not the latest fashion or following the best sports team. Dressing respectably, and as the parents set the example in the home, the children will learn and as they grow older, they will have that desire to dress as a 'child of God' should appear.

Also, the way we talk and the words we use. Ephesians 4:29 tells us, "*Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth.*" We have many instructions written out for us in God's Word and we need to take heed as 1 Timothy 4:16 tells us, "*Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.*"

We also have instructions written out for us in the eleventh chapter of first Corinthians, for the woman and also for the man. We don't conform to

the world because we are transformed by the renewing of the mind.

We have the will of God written out for us in His Book and we are responsible to follow His written Word in our life here, and as we allow God to teach and train us in understanding and doing the will and Word of God, we will enter into the happiness that we lost in the fall of Adam, which is our Blood-bought right to receive through the work on Calvary's Cross.

Another condition for happiness here in this life is to depend on the living God alone for everything we may need or desire. The difference between fallen man's plan and God's plan is that fallen man depends on his own plan or some other plan to get what he wants in this life. God's plan is to depend on the 'living God' alone, just as they started out to do in the 'Garden of Eden.' Then it will be possible for God to manifest His great love and power in making us happy.

Psalm 1:1-3, "*Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*"

The word blessed, in the beginning of this verse means, 'happy, very happy is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.' It is a fact that any trouble that anyone has ever been faced with, is because they have been outside the will of God some place in their life or living or doing something opposite to God's Word.

In Jeremiah 17:5-8, we have another condition for happiness which is made very plain. This clearly tells us that there will be trouble for anyone who will place their trust on anything or anyone but God. The word 'cursed' in this verse means 'trouble.' We will have nothing but trouble if we try to depend on ourselves or any other human plan for what we need and desire in this life.

But, happy, very happy we will be when we are trusting in the Lord our God alone for the things of this life.

Jeremiah 17:5-8, *“Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.”*

No one can live according to the New Testament Scriptures without trusting in the living God alone. There is no room left for any efforts of our own or plans of fallen man. There are many examples in God’s Word of how everything works out so perfectly when we follow God’s directions and place our full faith and trust in Him.

In the fifth chapter of 2nd Kings, we have the story of Naaman the captain of the Syrian army, who was a leper. A little captive maid advised him to go to the prophet in Samaria for the healing of his incurable disease. The King of Syria, in ignorance, sent him to the King of Israel instead of the Prophet Elisha. This was a serious mistake—this was changing God’s Word. Of course, he received no deliverance, and the King of Israel became very upset. Elisha the prophet, having heard of it, sent word to have Naaman come to him. When he came, he was told to go “wash in Jordan seven times.”

Naaman refused to do so and became very indignant because he said that the waters of Damascus are far better than the waters of Jordan and if just washing in water would bring the healing, he could have gotten it in Damascus. After his anger had settled down and he started back home, his servant said to him the same thing we need to be reminded of, this is paraphrased, “Just do what the Word of God says.”

Naaman’s servant said, (vs 13) *“My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?”*

Naaman at once turned and followed God’s directions exactly and was instantly healed. He also received a spiritual light and power that very few professing Christians have or even know about today. Naaman came back to Elisha’s door and said, (vs 15-17) *“behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel.....for thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the Lord.”*

It was the same in the New Testament when Peter and some of the disciples were washing their nets after fishing all night. After Jesus had borrowed their boat and spoke to the people, He turned to Peter and said, Luke 5:4, *“Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a draught.”* Peter hesitated at this and told Jesus how useless this would be because they had already toiled all night and taken nothing.

It’s not recorded if Jesus had said anything more to Peter but must have just looked straightly at him. Peter then replied, “Nevertheless at Thy word, I will let down the net.” And when they had done this, they enclosed a great multitude of fish.

Peter, like Naaman, received new spiritual light and blessing. He was at once convicted of his spiritual condition and fell at Jesus’ feet, confessing that he was a wicked man. Jesus at once pardoned and cleansed him and said, “Fear not, from henceforth thou shalt catch men.” This was the starting point for many things done for and by Peter.

Jesus spoke to the unbelieving Church people in His own town of Nazareth, in the fourth chapter of Luke, about the many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah the prophet, “but unto none of them was Elijah sent, but to a widow woman of Zarephath,” who was a Gentile.

God knew that the widows in Israel would not accept His plan and it would be useless to send Elijah to them. God loved them as much as He loved this poor widow and longed to deliver them. But when

they would not obey His Word or place their trust in Him, they suffered the hardships that this famine had caused, and, of course, received no spiritual light or blessing like this widow did.

Abraham is used by Paul in Romans and in Galatians as an example of a gospel life of trust and obedience and tells us that ‘those who walk in the footsteps of faithful Abraham will be blessed with him’. He was called upon, just like we are, to make an entire surrender of his life to God and start out to do the will of God. Abraham was always ready to follow God’s plan and to place his whole trust in Him. His progress was rapid and his blessings many. Like us, he suffered no harm in doing anything that God’s Word and will told him to do.

Not only did Abraham receive fulness of blessing and perfect happiness in everything, but it must have been a never-ending joy to know that through his descendants the whole world was to be blessed and made happy.

The final result for Abraham was Eternal Life, and that is the final result for every one of us who will learn two lessons. That of obedience to God’s Word and to trust in Him alone in all things.

That condition for obtaining happiness and eternal life is known by very few professing Christians. Through an unwillingness to surrender their lives to God and truly repent of their ways, Satan has blinded and robbed them of everything that Jesus died to give them. The same conditions that Abraham had to meet to get eternal life are the same conditions for every one of us today.

If we are so blinded by Satan and so ignorant of God’s will and Word that we cannot or will not trust Him for the smaller things of this life, how can we ever trust Him for the greater spiritual things and the greatest gift of all—ETERNAL LIFE?



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