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THE WILL OF GOD

Over the years as a Pastor many have come to me and have asked me about the will of God for their lives. Many had decisions they needed to make that would alter the rest of their lives. Some had specific needs that needed to be met, and they often asked my counsel as to what direction to go.

Knowing the will of God for our lives will bring us peace even when that will may take us down a pathway that has many hardships and many uncertainties. One of the greatest examples of this is the Apostle Paul. He had prayed and knew he was to go to Rome to be a witness for Jesus. Before leaving on this journey, he met with his friends in a prayer meeting and was told by a prophet of God that if he went that he would be "bound." Because of this prophetic word, there were those that tried to stop him from making this journey to Rome, but Paul knew that it was the "will of God" to proceed.

Regardless of what God has for us, when we know His will, there will always be peace. In spite of the outcome of the Apostle Paul's last journey, he knew this was the right path. The peace of God was with him. This enabled him to carry out God's plan, and not his own plan.

Knowing the will of God comes from studying the scriptures. You will be able to rightly divide truth from error by knowing what God has to say about a situation. We do not determine God's will by our circumstances my friends. It is that inner peace that comes knowing that you are on the right track. God will never violate his word. His will is his word.

We understand what a "last will and testament" are when someone dies and leaves behind instructions for "his remains and his assets." The word testament only is effective if there is someone that has died. Upon the death of Jesus, the testament became in effect. His testament is the word of God. As we study it, we see the benefits God has provided for us and learn what rightfully belongs to us as heirs to "his kingdom." Without studying the "New Testament" and seeing how the "Old Testament" is fulfilled by the new, we can know God's will. When there isn't any specific answer to our prayers then we are led by the peace of God. If there is no peace, then you can rightfully say that it isn't the will of God.

Often, we go to others for direction when God has given us the roadmap for life (the bible) for each of us individually. We must study it to find the right direction for each of us personally. What may be right for me may not be right for you. Yes, we can get counsel, but ultimately it is a one-on-one decision between you and God.

II Timothy 3:16 commands us to study the word of God for doctrine (teaching), for reproof (discipline) for correction (getting us back on track) and for instruction in righteousness (daily living in the right way.) You can never go wrong when you go with God and His word. His word is His will.