"THE WILL OF GOD" - Part III
(What is God's Specific Will for my Life?)

INTRODUCTION:

***You need to know what God's specific will is for your life!**

God's will for you is:

I. **SALVATION (I Tim. 2:4; II Pet. 3:9)**
(God wants you to be saved)

II. **SPIRIT-FULLNESS (Eph. 5:17-18)**
(God wants you to be Spirit-filled)

III. **SERVICE (Eph. 6:6; Heb. 13:20-21)**
(God wants you to serve Him sincerely)

IV. **SACRIFICE (II Cor. 8:5; Rom. 12:1-2)**
(God wants you to surrender your life to Him)

V. **SANCTIFICATION (I Thess. 4:3-8)**
(God wants you to be sexually pure)

VI. **SUPPLICATION (I Thess. 5:16-18)**
(God wants you to seek Him daily)

VII. **SUBMISSION (I Pet. 2:13-15)**
(God wants you to submit to authority)

VIII. **SUFFERING (I Pet. 4:12-19; cp. 3:17)**
(God wants you to be willing to suffer for His sake)

CONCLUSION:

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God's will is not difficult to find. It is clearly revealed in the pages of your Bible.

--Basically, His will is His Word.
(the commands that apply to the Christian are His will for the Christian)

--Specifically, His will is stated for us by the word "thelama." This word points to the desire of God, His specific wishes, plans, goals for your life.

We will study Bible passages that use the word "thelama."

Paul prayed continually that the Colossian Christians might be "filled with the knowledge of His will" (Col. 1:9; cp. Col. 4:12).

(Note: A knowledge of God's will will affect your practical everyday walk with God - v. 10).

***You need to know what God's specific will is for your life!**

God's will for you is:

I. SALVATION (I Tim. 2:4; II Pet. 3:9)
(God wants you to be saved)

SEE: Eph. 1:5, 9, 11 - God's will in planning for your salvation.

Jn. 6:40 - "And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."

You cannot do any of God's will until you are saved!

Those who do the will of God evidence the fact that:

1)They have eternal life

--Mt. 7:21
--I Jn. 2:17

2)They are related to Jesus Christ

--Mt. 12:50

II. SPIRIT-FULLNESS (Eph. 5:17-18)
(God wants you to be Spirit-filled)

"Filled" = to be completely filled with the result that what fills you controls you.

NOTE: Sin prevents filling--grieves Spirit.

Filling =

1.Not a spiritual gift (Ephesians had all spiritual blessings [1:3] already but were commanded to be filled)
2.Not baptism or indwelling (all Christians are baptized in Spirit and indwelt, but not all are filled) (we are never commanded to receive the Spirit)
3.Present tense (continuous filling)
4.Passive imperative (God fills as believer yields)
5.Command (not to be filled is disobedience, sin) (it's not optional, just as commands to forgive, not be unequally yoked, etc.)
6."Filling" = control for biblical living

It's not getting more of the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit getting more of you!

RESULTS OF SPIRIT'S CONTROL (v. 19-21)

1.Inward evidence (v. 19)
2.Upward evidence (v. 20) (Thanksgiving to God)
3.Outward evidence

III. SERVICE (Eph. 6:6; Heb. 13:20-21)
(God wants you to serve Him sincerely)

Paul continually makes reference to his apostleship as having been given to him by the will of God. (I Cor. 1:1; II Cor. 1:1; Ga. 1:4; Eph. 1:1; Col. 1:1; II Tim. 1:1)
God gave you gifts to use for Him, not to waste (II Pet. 4:10-11).

To know God's will and not to do it is terrifying (Lk. 12:47).

Phil. 2:12-13 - "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure."

Man's part (v. 12b) - "Work out your own salvation" [NOTE: God does not say work for it, but rather work it out - life it out - Eph. 2:10]

God's part (v. 13) - He works in you to:
"will" - He gives you the desire to do His will
"do" - He gives you the ability to do His will

IV. SACRIFICE (II Cor. 8:5; Rom. 12:1-2)
(God wants you to surrender your life to Him)

Full surrender is the key to knowing God's will
(Rom. 12:1-2)

A willingness to do God's will is the key to spiritual understanding:

"If any man will do his will, he shall know the doctrine..." (Jn. 7:17)

V. SANCTIFICATION (I Thess. 4:3-8)
(God wants you to be sexually pure)

A.THE MEANING OF SANCTIFICATION (v. 3b-6a)
(God's Plan for You to Stay Clean)

1.Sanctification is:
SEPARATING YOURSELF FROM SEXUAL IMMORALITY (v. 3b)

2.Sanctification is:
STRENGTHENING YOURSELF AGAINST SEXUAL IMMORALITY
(v. 4-5)

3.Sanctification is:
NOT STEPPING INTO FORBIDDEN TERRITORY (v. 6a)

4.Sanctification is:
NOT STEALING WHAT BELONGS TO SOMEONE ELSE (v. 6a)

B.THE REASONS FOR SANCTIFICATION (v. 6b-8)
(God's Provocation for You to Stay Clean)

1.SEXUAL SIN WILL BE JUDGED BY GOD (v. 6b)
(Look ahead to what you will reap!)

2.SEXUAL SIN IS CONTRARY TO GOD'S PURPOSE FOR SAVING YOU (v. 7)
(Look back at what God did for you!)

3.SEXUAL SIN IS REJECTING (rebellion against) GOD
(v. 8)
(Look up at who you are rejecting!)

VI. SUPPLICATION (I Thess. 5:16-18)
(God wants you to seek Him daily)

VII. SUBMISSION (I Pet. 2:13-15)

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II Tim. 3:12 - "Yea, and all that will life godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Ex. Jesus' desire to do the will of the Father and drink the cup of suffering (Mt. 26:42).

Some of the godliest people in history have swallowed he bitter waters of suffering.

A.Suffering Persecution

Mt. 5:10-12

Ex: Joseph
Ex: Daniel
Ex: The Apostles

B.Suffering Physical Ailments

Ex: Job
Ex: Paul (II Cor. 12:1-10)

CONCLUSION:

Our prayer needs to be: Mt. 6:10 - "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."