

The Ministry in the Will of God, Part 3

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 15:22-33.

B. The will of God controlled the Apostle Paul's life. It should be our delight also. (Psalm 40:8, Hebrews 10:7)

C. The goal of our life is to know and perfect the will of God. (Ephesians 5:27; 6:6; Colossians 1:9; 4:12; Hebrews 10; James 4:15; 1 Peter 4:2; 1 John 2:17)

D. The will of God has different dimensions.

1. The sovereign unalterable will of God.

2. The moral will of God. This is not always done.

3. The personal will of God.

E. One who is in the flow of God's personal plan for his life has certain characteristics.

II. Precision.

III. Commitment to providence.

IV. Planning.

V. Priority.

VI. Prosperity.

VII. Experience of persecution. Paul experienced greater hostility because of the Jews.

VIII. Purpose.

A. Paul was motivated by the love of Christ. (1 Corinthians 9; 2 Corinthians 4:5, 11; 12:10)

B. Paul was motivated by his love for the Spirit.

IX. Prayer.

A. Ongoing prayer is an essential element in the ministry.

B. Prayer is a war waged against the forces of evil. (John 8:36; Isaiah 64:7; Genesis 32:24-30; Colossians 2:1)

C. There is a connection between righteousness and effective prayer. (James 5:16)

D. Paul sought prayer because he knew how important it was. (Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 4:25; 2 Thessalonians 3:1)

1. Paul asks for prayer for safety. The Jews plotted against Paul because of his ministry. (Acts 9; Galatians 1:18; Acts 20)

2. Paul asks for prayer for success.

3. Paul asks for prayer for the ultimate goal.

E. Benediction. Paul never lost peace in turmoil because he lived in the will of God.

Application Questions:

1. Why is prayer critical to living in God's will?

2. How can you pray more for others?

3. How can living in the will of God bring us peace?
