

The Godly Man as Christ's Representative

Finding God's Will

God is more interested in our knowing and doing His will than we are in discovering it. He is not trying to hide His will from us. His will is never in opposition to His Word.

Christianity is not a set of rules but the operation of Divine principles. Some things are clear as to their rightness or wrongness as revealed in the Bible. Other areas are not as clear. These areas all need careful examination and decision by each of us.



Biblical Principles Concerning the Will of God

1. From the passages below, in your own words, summarize what each says God's revealed will is.

- a. I Timothy 2:4
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- b. I Thessalonians 4:3
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- c. Galatians 1:4
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- d. I Thess 5:18
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- e. I Peter 2:15
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- f. I Peter 4:19
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- g. Romans 14:9
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2. Principles in determining right or wrong. Mark the following statements true or false in light of the Scriptures given.

- T F** 1. If the Bible doesn't specifically condemn it, it is all right for me to do. I Corinthians 6:12
- T F** 2. If the Bible speaks against it, I must not do it. Acts 5:29
- T F** 3. If it is socially acceptable, it is all right. Galatians 1:10
- T F** 4. If it could hurt my body, I must not do it. I Corinthians 6:19, 20
- T F** 5. How it affects others is not really important. Romans 14:21, II Corinthians 6:3, I Corinthians 11:1, I Corinthians 10:33
- T F** 6. I should be concerned with whether it glorifies God or not. I Corinthians 10:31
- T F** 7. I am responsible for how it affects my mind. Philippians 2:5
- T F** 8. If it is my time, life or money, I am investing, then it is my own business. I Corinthians 4:2

Discovering God's will

1. In Genesis 24:27, Abraham's servant was led by God because he was: (underline the correct answer)

- a. A godly man
- b. Wise
- c. Moving in the direction of discovering God's will
- D. Jewish

2. Psalm 119:105 teaches that clear leading for a life comes from

3. Another way God leads us is through
Proverbs 11:14



4. Proverbs 16:33 (Amplified) “The lot is cast into the lap, but the decision is wholly of the Lord - even the events (that seem accidental) are really ordered by Him,” indicates that God can lead us through: (*check one*)

- a. Throwing dice (....)
- b. Accidents (....)
- c. Circumstances (....)

5. An inner conviction that a certain course of action is right is called
 (Philippians 4:6-7).

Will of God
How to Discern the Will of God



We have discovered that God leads us through prayer, His Word, circumstances, Godly counsel, and inner peace. He also leads those who are moving instead of sitting still. Remember, the most reliable leading is always the Bible.

Procedure for Discovering God's Will

Study the following outline carefully and keep it handy as a reference for discovering God's will for your own life or helping another to determine what God would have him to do.



1. Do you believe that God's will can be known definitely and accurately? If not, look up Psalm 32:8 and Isaiah 30:21.
2. Are you willing to seek God's will and do it or would you just like to have an option on it? John 7:17.
3. Have you made a permanent decision of commitment to be yielded to God for the rest of your life? If not, meditate on Romans 12:1, 2 and seek counsel.
4. Is there any known unconfessed sin in your life? If so, stop here and confess it and forsake it. If you won't do that, then do not proceed in seeking God's will. I John 1:9, Proverbs 28:13, Psalm 66:18.
5. Are you obeying the known will of God for your life on a daily basis? If not, start today and demonstrate it before proceeding. Psalm 119:59-60.
6. Are you in neutral, willing for the matter to fall either way? Ask God to reveal whether you are in neutral. If not, continue to pray that God's desires will be your desires. Philippians 2:13
7. Are you praying specifically and definitely about it in faith? Make a list of your specific thoughts and pray about them. Pray in faith. James 1:5-7 (Living) Mark 10:51.
8. Are you fellowshiping with God daily through reading His Word and prayer? If not, commit yourself to begin today. Psalm 5:3.
9. Has God spoken to you through His Word, in your regular reading, or your scripture review? Keep a written record of what God speaks to you about. If you have been in the Word and have no guidance from it, continue in the Word but wait. Psalm 37:34 (Living).
10. Do you have *all* the available facts? If not, take action to get the facts. Proverbs 24:3-4 (Living).
11. Make a list here of advantages and disadvantages about the issue:

Advantages

Disadvantages

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- 12. What does common sense tell you to do? Acts 6:10, Acts 12:10 (Williams)
- 13. What do you want to do? Psalm 37:4
- 14. Why do you want to do it? Proverbs 21:2 (Living)
- 15. Is it of benefit to you (spiritually, physically, emotionally, mentally, socially)?
I Corinthians 6:12
- 16. Will it be a thorn causing anxious cares, desire for riches, or desire for pleasure? Mark 4:19,
Luke 8:14 17. Will it be a weight? Hebrews 12:1, 2
- 18. Will it cause another to stumble? I Corinthians 10:23, Romans 14:21. Will it glorify God?
I Corinthians 10:31
- 19. Have you asked counsel from three spiritually mature people? If so, record what they said. If
not, write the names of three you can ask (Proverbs 15:22):
 - 1).....
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 - 2).....
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 - 3).....
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- 20. Does it violate any known scriptural principle? Psalm 119:19 (Living)
- 21. Are you willing to wait in faith for God to line up His Word, your peace, and circumstances?
Hebrews 10:36
- 22. Do you have inner conviction or peace about a course of action? If so, proceed with conviction.
Romans 14:23
- 23. Act in faith, believing God wants you to do it. Hebrews 11:6

Application

Review the principles in determining right or wrong. In the light of these principles, what are you now doing which you should stop or what are you considering doing which you should reject?

What will you do about it?

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Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 258A - Will of God, The, Lorne Sanny
- Tape 1533 - God's Will, John Repass

Affirming the Will of God by Paul E. Little – Intervarsity Press