



The Examiners

...Examining the Scripture daily to see whether these things were so... Acts 17:11

THE DIVINE GUIDANCE

Vol. 5 No. 4 March 2011

Analysis: God promised daily constant guidance to believers (Isaiah 58:11), but most Christians today, cannot find and execute the will of God for their lives. If they are 25 years in the spiritual life, they are also 25 years away from fulfilling the will of God. They failed to study the Word of God daily, continually, progressively, systematically and doctrinally for the past 25 years.

Every child of God must know the will of God for his life in order to fulfill the function of a royal ambassador, as the representative of the Lord Jesus on earth. To that end, the believer must attain to know God by knowing the Word of God and to know the will of God and execute it.

The perfect plan of God for imperfect man can be executed only by means of God's power with God's wisdom inside God's system. Human power and resources are not permissible and suitable. No believer can know the will of God apart from Bible doctrine. There is no shortcut in knowing God's will. There is no instant divine guidance. Daily reception, perception, retention and recall of Bible doctrine mean divine guidance whenever you need it.

Divine guidance is the communication of God's will through Bible doctrine. Divine guidance is the doctrine of knowing the will of God for your life, related to both specific and general things, by the operation of your own thinking in the application of doctrine under two categories:

- The short term will of God, which means, what does God want me to do today?
- The long term will of God, which means, what God wants me to do with my life.

The basic principle of divine guidance (1 John 3:23)

- For unbelievers: salvation (2 Peter 3:9)

- For believers: spirituality (Ephesians 5:18)

There are three categories of the will of God.

- A. The directive will of God, the believer in fellowship.
- B. The permissive will of God, the believer in carnality.
- C. The overruling will of God, the wall of fire for believers in both fellowship and carnality.

The believer in the directive will of God is in the status of glorifying God, of being in fellowship with God. The believer in the permissive will of God is in the status of carnality, of being out of fellowship with God. In the directive will of God the believer's modus operandi is twofold:

- Yieldedness to God the Holy Spirit
- Consistent spiritual growth through doctrinal inculcation, which is perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.

No one can ever know the will of God for their life apart from Bible doctrine circulating in the seven compartments of the stream of consciousness.

- a. memory compartment (Reception, Retention and Recall)
- b. frame of reference
- c. vocabulary compartment
- d. categorical storage compartment
- e. momentum compartment
- f. conscience compartment (norm and standards)
- g. wisdom compartment (the launching pad out into your life situation)

In the permissive will of God the believer substitutes human volition for divine sovereignty. The believer is using his volition contrary to the will of God. The believer in the permissive will of God generally functions contrary to the will of God. The believer in the permissive will of God is kept alive (not all) under

logistical grace, so that he can exercise his options for or against the will of God.

The overruling will of God is designed to accomplish the purpose of God in spite of the failure of the believer. The overruling will of God will be accomplished by severe punishment. God the Holy Spirit will make it clear what the will of God was for your life. The believer out of the directive will of God enters into the permissive will of God. Under the permissive will of God we suffer terribly. Since the permissive will of God is associated with the carnal believer, the believer remains alive under the permissive will of God, but under divine discipline in four categories (Self-Induced Misery, Warning discipline, Intensified discipline, sin Unto Death).

Another way of looking at divine guidance is through disciplinary action from God. There is direct and indirect disciplinary action from God. The believer receives two categories of disciplinary action from the justice of God under the concept of indirect disciplinary action and direct disciplinary action. The indirect disciplinary action is stated in the law of volitional responsibility (Gal 6:7).

There are three checkpoints in the will of God. These are necessary because the carnal loser believer rationalizes what he or she wants to do. Often, what he or she calls the will of God is nothing more than *the lust pattern of the sin nature*, which combines emotion with what he or she wants to do. The will of the God is suppressed by emotion or rationalization.

1. The geographical will of God. Where does God want me to be?
2. The viewpoint will of God. What does God want me to think? (take upon you the mind of Christ)
3. The operational will of God. What does God want me to do?

God's methods of revealing His will to people: Pre-Canon (before the completion of the Bible): God sometimes spoke directly to man through dialogues, through dreams, visions, prophecies, teaching of angels and even making an animal talked. These are no longer used today.

Post-Canon (after the completion of the Bible): The perfect plan, will and purpose of God are revealed

through the communication of Bible doctrine by the mentorship of the Holy Spirit. God's will for the Church Age believer is clearly expressed in the canon of Scripture, with emphasis on the epistles of the New Testament.

Every divine mandate in the epistles dealing with the filling by means of the Spirit, perception, metabolization, application of Bible doctrine, and spiritual growth are major factors in God expressing His will for our life. You cannot know the will of God apart from the residence of epignosis doctrine in your soul's stream of consciousness. God's will is made known to the believer by the direct statement of Scripture. But the will of the Lord is also made known to us by divine discipline.

Divine discipline and human disaster as a classification of guidance from God is limited to the negative aspect of God's will. Divine discipline is a warning signal from God that the believer is not in the will of God. Divine discipline is designed to correct what has gone wrong in a believer's life. Discipline and disaster is flashing signal that the believer is outside the will of God. Therefore, divine discipline is limited to warning. The very fact that God makes His will known to Church Age believers indicates the importance of the principles of doctrine. The sovereignty of God and the free will of man coexist in human history to resolve the pre-historical angelic conflict. Since they coexist in history, God intends for us to know and do His will.

The volition of the believer can respond or react to the will of God. Positive volition results in the believer executing the protocol plan of God. Negative volition results in the believer's failure to fulfill the plan and failure to glorify God. It is not the will of God for any believer to be a loser. You do the will of God by believing in Jesus Christ. This is when you start doing the will of God.

Divine guidance is the doctrine of determining the will of God for your life. Most people want to run to someone else and get counseling. If you are not learning Bible doctrine on a consistent basis, all the counseling in the world will not help you determine God's will for your life because you will end up doing what someone else thinks rather than doing what God wants. Divine guidance and the execution of the will of God is always a private matter between you and God. Whether you choose or reject the will of God it must be your own decision.

The will of God must be consistent with His attributes and personality. God cannot compromise His essence in the function of His sovereignty. The will of God is manifested in the decrees of God. The decrees teach us the will of God.

The decree of God is His eternal, holy, wise and sovereign purpose, comprehending at once all things that ever were or will be in their courses, conditions, successions, and relations, and determining their certain futurity. The several contents of this one eternal purpose are, because of the limitation of our mentality and faculties, necessarily perceived by us in partial aspects and in both logical and revealed relations. The decrees of God are His eternal and immutable will regarding the future existence of events which happen in time, and the precise manner and order of their occurrence.

Therefore, the decree expresses the eternal plan and will of God by which God has rendered certain all events of history in the past, present, and future. Hence, the will of God is the sovereign choice of the divine will and mentality inherent in the essence of God by which all things are brought into being, controlled, made subject to His pleasure, and producing His glorification. It is the pleasure of God to permit creature volition in both angelic and human beings. This explains why man and angels have free will.

There is one all-inclusive will and purpose of God concerning all that ever was or is or ever will be among creatures. This will and purpose originates within God Himself without any outside influences. The will and plan of God were objectively designed for His pleasure, glory, and satisfaction in eternity past. All creatures have been placed in space and time, and all events relating to space and time were simultaneously and instantly decreed. These simultaneous decrees result in all divine action.

Divine action falls into two categories. Within the Godhead, the interaction between the members of the Godhead is called immanent, intrinsic, and subjective. Actions related to creation are the actions of God which are called extrinsic (outside of God), transient (they function in human history chronologically), and objective (the function of divine justice in human history).

God's decrees are efficacious. They determine all that ever was, is, or will be. Efficacious refers to the directive will of God. Efficacious is used in a technical sense for that which is the direct work of God, in contrast to permissive will, which is the will of God accomplished through man's free will and through the action of God's creatures.

Distinction should be made between the decrees of God in eternity past and the actions of God in time. The action of God in time is the execution of the decrees of eternity past. The execution is not the decree, but logically follows the decree. One follows the other, but they are not the same. Distinction should be made between what could have happened and what does happen. God knows both, but only puts what is going to happen in the decrees. Distinction should be made between God's decrees and God's laws. God's decrees occurred in eternity past; God's laws function in time.

The decrees are the action and plan of God. God's laws regulate human conduct and function, so that the decrees can be fulfilled by the action of God in time. The laws of God are completely revealed in the Scripture, while the decrees of God are only partially revealed. The laws of God can be broken by human volition or frustrated by man's volition, but the decrees of God cannot be broken or frustrated by man's volition because the decrees already existed before volition was ever created by God.

God's decrees do not originate from His foreknowledge. In the logical order of things, the function of the foreknowledge of God makes nothing certain. God's decrees originate from God's omniscience, not His foreknowledge. The order is: Omniscience, then the Decrees and then Foreknowledge. The foreknowledge of God merely perceives the things that are certain. It is the decree of God that makes all things certain. The decrees are from omniscience; foreknowledge only confirms what has been decreed. Therefore, all things depend on God's will, and nothing is certain apart from God's will.

There is difference between what God decreed and His desire. Sin, suffering, reversionism, death,

human good, and evil are not the desires of God, but they are in the decrees of God. God desires His perfect will, but both human and angelic volition, using divinely-created free will, violate the desires of God. This is how sin and evil come into the world. When human will equal God's desires, this equals divine guidance. God does not desire to throw creatures into the Lake of Fire, but that judgment is decreed for all who reject Christ as Savior.

God does not desire to discipline believers, but that punishment is decreed for all believers in reversionism under the influence of evil or persistent carnality. Therefore, it is the justice of God which reconciles desire and decree. And it is the justice of God to which we adjust when we obey, do, or function under the will of God. Characteristics of the Will of God: God's will or decree is all comprehensive. Not the slightest uncertainty could exist as to one of the smallest events without the confusion to all events. Therefore, all events of history are interwoven and interdependent (Eph 1:11, 2:10-11).

The will of God is eternal; God is not gaining in knowledge. What He knows at any given time in history He has always known. The will of God is perfect. A perfect person can only have a perfect will. Since nothing has or can occur unknown to God in eternity past, His will is unchangeable and certain. The free will of God or divine sovereignty, reflected in the decrees of God, will be completed regardless of His creatures and with regard to His creatures. God's will goes on and does not depend on you. God is bound by His justice, truth, and infinite faithfulness to complete what He has begun. The principle of the will of God is therefore grace. Since God thought it, God will do it.

His will for us is to be on the grace side of history. The divine outline of human history in the dispensations is the reflection of God's will and decrees. The divine objective is the preservation and deliverance of believers to the point of maturity. The work of God is often called providence, by which He molds all events into the fulfillment of His eternal purpose. Preservation continues the existence of

things, but providence directs their progress. Advancing believers progress to the divine objective.

Therefore, the will of God is directive. God has a plan for each of our lives communicated in His Word. The will of God is determinative. God has permitted non-meritorious volition to bring us to the place of blessing or cursing. The will of God is permissive. Negative volition to Bible doctrine is permitted, but divine justice provides a horrible life and death. The will of God is preventative, providing Bible doctrine, establishment laws, and discipline to keep human volition inside the will of God.

The Axiom for Divine Guidance, 1 John 3:23. "And this is His mandate, that we believe in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He has given to us a mandate." This verse is the desire of God. It reduces the will of God to its utmost simplicity; that the entire human race believes in Jesus Christ; and that all believers function under impersonal love of the royal family honor code, toward all other members of the human race.

Categories of the Will of God:

- The viewpoint will of God is what God wants you to think.
- The operational will of God is what God wants you to do.
- The geographical will of God is where God wants you to be.

The permissive will of God says that God permits certain things to happen because God has given free will to man, so that man would be a rational creature who would resolve the angelic conflict. You can know the viewpoint, operational, and geographical will of God for your life only by having maximum doctrine in your soul. You receive divine discipline for not knowing the right answer and being outside of God's will.

Classification of the Will of God: The directive will of God is the same as the desire of God, Num 22:12. These are direct commands, "Don't do this and such." The permissive will of God is permitted but is not God's desire (Num 22:20). The overruling will of

God is that Jesus Christ controls history (Num 23:5, 8, 23, 25-26).

The overruling will of God is divine deliverance of the Church Age believer. The overruling will of God is for all believers. It is extended to believers in a state of sin, out of fellowship and God still has something for them to do. It is also for the believer in fellowship. The overruling will of God is extended to carnal believers, who are under the permissive will of God, which includes the love of God expressed in divine punishment. God's love for the believer when he sinned is never diminished. God's love for the carnal believer does not diminish, even under severe punishment, and often results in rebound and deliverance from sin face-to-face with death. As a result of rebound, the believer under the directive will of God and overruling will of God is protected, and therefore, has the option of continuation of the unique plan of God for the Church Age.

The overruling will of God combined with the directive will of God provides numerous deliverances from adverse circumstances. Only the overruling will of God keeps a believer in carnality in the permissive will of God alive, so that he still has the opportunity of exercising his option for rebound. For the believer in carnality under the permissive will of God, divine punishment combined with the overruling will of God keeps the believer alive so that he can rebound. Only then does the plan and will of God for the believer become operational again under the principle of the directive will of God combined with the overruling will of God.

Because the love of God does not diminish, and because the believer fails, the overruling will of God with its wall of fire combines with the permissive will of God to keep the door of God's will open, so that carnal believers, can utilize the recovery procedure of rebound to fulfill the plan of God provided by antecedent grace in eternity past. The overruling will of God combines with the wisdom and sovereignty of God to fulfill God's purpose in every dispensation of history. Therefore, the believer's failure neither hinders, nor frustrates, nor cancels God's plan and will for your life. The believer who is consistent in the directive will of God related to the filling of the Spirit and the perception of metabolized doctrine

and the application of doctrine to experience becomes a winner believer.

The will of God can be declared under four principles.

- A. The will of God is directive. God has a plan for your life.
- B. The will of God is determinative. God has permitted non-meritorious volition to bring us to the place of blessing or discipline.
- C. The will of God is permissive. Negative volition to Bible doctrine is permitted, but divine justice provides discipline.
- D. The will of God is preventative, providing doctrine, establishment laws, and discipline to keep human volition in the will of God.

Academic Concept of Divine Guidance, (Rev 3:1) All divine guidance depends on the perception of doctrine and then its application. This principle of Bible doctrine in the soul is found in Ps 32:8; Isa 58:11. The pure thoughts of doctrine, not the deceptive thoughts of man, are the basis for divine guidance (Prov 3:1-6; Rom 12:2). The filling of the Holy Spirit is a part of divine guidance, (Eph 5:14-18). The will of the Lord is understanding doctrine. A foolish (aphron) believer is not thinking based on doctrinal frame of reference that leads to arrogance and antagonism.

To hear the teaching of the word of God, but to reject it because you are in a state of sin, results to grieving the Holy Spirit. Grieving the Holy Spirit is indifference to the teaching of the will of God. Arrogance will lead to antagonism to the teaching of the word of God. In this status the believer is quenching the Holy Spirit. In the status of grieving and quenching the Holy Spirit you will get around to lying to the Holy Spirit.

Col 1:9, "For this reason also, since we first heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, and ask that you may be filled with the epignosis knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding."

Rom 12:2, "Stop being conformed to this world but be transformed by the renovation of your thinking, that you may prove what the will of God is, namely, the good of intrinsic value achievement, the well-pleasing to God, the mature status quo."

Eph 1:8-9, "From which riches of grace He made abundant toward us by means of all wisdom and insight when He made know to us the mystery of His will according to His gracious intention."

Wisdom is metabolized doctrine circulating in the stream of consciousness. Insight is objective thinking that leads to right decisions and right actions. Insight is the fulfillment of the will of God for your life. Wisdom is knowing the will of God. Insight is executing the will of God.

1 Pet 4:2, "So as to no longer live the rest of your time in the flesh for the lusts of mankind, but for the will of God." Heb 10:36, "You have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised."

Heb 13:21, "Equip yourselves in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ, to Whom be the glory forever."

Col 4:12, "Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bonds slave of Jesus Christ, sends you greetings, always laboring earnestly in his prayers for you, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God."

1 Pet 2:15, "For such is the will of God, that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of the foolish men."

Spiritual growth causes you to know more of the will of God, 2 Pet 3:18; Heb 11:7.

Mechanics of the Will of God: (Acts 11)

1. Guidance through prayer (verse 5)
2. Guidance through objective thinking of Bible doctrine, verse 6.
3. Guidance through perception and recall of doctrine, verses 7-10.
4. Guidance through providential circumstances, e.g. the people we meet, verse 11.
5. Guidance through filling of the Holy Spirit and humility, verse 12.
6. Guidance through fellowship and comparison of spiritual data, verses 13-14.

7. Guidance through recalling of doctrine, verse 16.
8. Guidance through disaster.

Divine guidance is based on the fact that man does possess free will. This free will was created by God to do the will of God apart from coercion. This resolves the angelic conflict. Bible doctrine in the soul plus free will in man equals divine guidance, the execution of the will of God. Divine guidance reaches its peak in spiritual maturity (Heb 11:7). The Summary of the Will of God for the Church (2 Peter 3:18), "But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever, Amen.

Starve to death your OSN not your soul. No one can have true hope until he posses metabolized Bible doctrine in the soul. The functional–operational divine guidance in the life of believer is the product of metabolized Bible doctrine in the soul. Cultivate spiritual habit of Bible doctrine, form a routine of Bible doctrine and you will be prepared for any future crisis. Make Bible doctrine as your top scales of values, do it whether you like it or not and you will never have to worry about the will of God for your life.

Detour to Divine Guidance:

- a. Prayer and fasting apart from a lifestyle of daily study of the Word of God
- b. Christian counseling with its incomplete and unsubstantial knowledge
- c. Deceptive vision, dreams, signs and angelic messages
- d. Emotionally "touched" by the "Holy Ghost"
- e. Sermons riddled with mysterious formula and seasoned with guilt building commands to do something God did not require
- f. Spiritualizing circumstances or situations
- g. The wisdom of "spiritual leaders" and their comforting encouragement contrary to the purpose and plan of God



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