

Are You Doing God's Will?

“26 Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.” (Acts 20:26-27)

Paul said to the Ephesians that he has not hesitated to proclaim to them the whole will of God. Why this was a thing of prime importance to Paul, and is important for the church to proclaim the whole will of God? You can find the answer in verse 26 Paul said to the Ephesians, ***“Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men.”*** Once you declare to the people the whole will of God you are no more accountable before God for their lives. If they will follow the instructions they will be blessed and if they will not obey, then they are sinning against us and against God and He shall call them for an account. It is very important to do and to live according to God's will, ***“The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.” (1John 2:17)***

“3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.” (Galatians 1:3-5) Christ died for me and for your sins, to save us and to give us eternal life. And this is the will of God. As Christ gave His life to us we therefore need to give our life for Him.

Ananias said to Paul when Paul repented, ***“14 Then he said: The God of our fathers has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. 15 You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. 16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.” (Acts 22:14-16)*** It is the will of God that you will know His will, to hear his word, to see vision, to be His witness to others and to get baptized.

“For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation.” (Acts 13:36a) David served God's purpose in his own generation. You are called to serve God's purpose in your own generation, ***“for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:13)*** Therefore you need to yield yourself fully to God to do the whole will of God.

“1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:1-2) The way here to experience and come to know the pleasing and perfect God's will is by observing the following:

- 1- To offer the parts of your bodies to the Lord as living sacrifice.
- 2- Do not confirm any longer to the pattern of this world.
- 3- To be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

“33 "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. 34 Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." (Mark 3:33-35) Anyone who do the will of God the Father is the brother, sister and the mother of Jesus.

“But as he left, he promised, "I will come back if it is God's will." Then he set sail from Ephesus.” (Acts 18:21) Paul promised the Ephesians that he will come back to them if that is God's will. In the same way you will not be moving to places without the approval of God and the agreement of His will, This is the same with what Paul expressed to the Romans about his visit to them, ***“In my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.” (Romans 1:10)*** ***“32 so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed.” (romans 15:32)***

“13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." 14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil.” (James 4:13-16) Braging anf boasting is sin. Even if you have money and if you have resources and have the power to move, you should not go on with your plan unless you have God's approval.

There are many people who behave and act and do certain things, that when you look at them, they are agreeing with the word of God, but they contradict the will of God. Therefore you need to be careful. Not every thing the word of God permit you to do is allow for you to do. It might not be the will of God for you. The written word is the Logos that will instruct you to do certain things. But the Rhema is what the Holy Spirit is speaking to you at that particular moment and that what you need to apply. When the Rhema would go along the logos and agree with it then this is the will of God.

“3 It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality.” (1Thessalonians 4:3) It is God's will for you to repent and to be cleansed from all your sins. It is God's will that you will not rush for a relationship and fall in sin. It is God's will that you need to be well prepared materially and spiritually before you think to you have a family. Be pure and clean till the right time for you to have a family. When you are ready and well prepared God will bring the right partner that you need and the one he prepared.

“18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1Thessalonians 5:18) The meaning of giving thanks to God in all circumstances is that you accept the will of God to you in Christ Jesus. Even when it contradict your will and your plan still you need to accept that and give thanks to the Lord. And even when you pray and commit yourself to God, then commit yourself to Him according to His will and not your will. Pray as Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane, ***“36 "Abba", Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” (Mark 14:36)*** And we pray according to the will of God as we are led by the Holy Spirit, ***“26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot***

express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.” (Romans 8:26-27) In the same way we need to pray for the disciples, the new believers and the new congregations who are under our care that they will do the whole will of God. Like Epaphras was praying for his Colossians congregation, **“12 Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.” (Colossians 4:12)**

How we live and serve God and serve others? **“5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; 6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; 7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men; 8 Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.” (Ephesians 6:6)** And you use the gifts of the Holy Spirit that God gave to you. As God save us through Jesus Christ our Lord, He confirmed that with signs and wonders and distributed gifts according to His will to serve the Living God, **“4 God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.” (Hebrews 2:4)**

The church should also do God's will. Moses declared that he is sitting as judge for the people who are coming seeking from him the will of God, **“15 Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will. 16 Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God's decrees and laws.” (Exodus 18:15-16)** Moses was declaring to them the will of God by informing them God's word and His laws. The same what Paul did to the Ephesians church, and this what he spoke in his farwell to them: **“18 When they arrived, he said to them: "You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. 19 I served the Lord with great humility and with tears, although I was severely tested by the plots of the Jews. 20 You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. 21 I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. 22 "And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. 23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me--the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. 25 "Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. 26 Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.” (Acts 20:18-27)**

“Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother.” (Colossians 1:1) Repeatedly Paul mentioned in many letters that he is an apostle according to the will of God (Read in your bible **1Corinthians 1:1; 2Corinthians 1:1; Ephesians 1:1; 1Timothy 1:1**) As a church our duties is to proclaim the whole will of God to people around us and to the disciples and believers that God had entrusted to our care. The spiritual gifts and the anointing that God had given us is to continue the apostolic ministry that the Lord

had started through His apostles and to continue proclaim the message and to fulfil the ministerial duties that the Lord had entrusted to us. We are called to continue to evangelise, making disciples, and caring for the congregations that the Lord is planting. We declare together with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, **“34 "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.” (John 4:34)**

My Dear and Beloved: Ponder on the message and ponder on the rest of the teaching that you had received from us, and this is my challenge to you: **“17 If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.” (John 7:17)** Mature and fully assured as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for revealing to me your will in a more clear and profound way. Lord I repent from the following sins _____. Lord cleanse my mind and purify me from all unrighteousness. Lord I commit myself to do your will and finishing your work according to your instruction to me through this message. Lord enable me and provide for me Lord and give me patient and perseverance to achieve all that. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

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