

PROCLAIMING THE WHOLE WILL OF GOD

²⁶ **Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you.**
²⁷ **For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.** ²⁸ **Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the Church of God, which he bought with his own blood. --Acts 20:26-28 (NIV)**

Apostle Paul, after 3 years of preaching and teaching in the Province of Asia Minor, he mentioned in his farewell address, **“I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.” (Acts 20:27)**

Apostle Paul faithfully preached and continuously taught the disciples of God. During his time, despite of all persecutions and accusations against him he never neglected and hesitated to proclaim the whole will of God; not only a full gospel, but the whole will of God. Saul who was later called Paul was a learned man and well-versed about the Law and the Prophets. He became an apostle by personally meeting the Lord Jesus on his way to Damascus. He was commissioned as special apostle for the Gentiles like us. Because specifically, we need to know the whole will of God. We are the gentiles and we are saved by grace through faith in Christ Jesus to do good works. *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:8-10)* In the early years of Christianity the gentile Christians did not become ignorant of the will of God because of the commitment of Apostle Paul and the early Christian leaders who proclaimed the whole will of God. Unto this day, our missionary goal has not changed, **“To proclaim the Whole Will of God!”**

Nowadays, many Christians are very ignorant about the will of God in their lives. The reason is, because week after week church leaders are busy proclaiming or announcing what would be the next planned activity for the church gathering or fellowship. The proclaiming and the preaching of the whole will of God have been replaced with church activities and social gatherings. And the result is – many Christians do their own will in life because they do not know the Bible, and they do not know how to apply the true principles of God in their own life. They may know in part, but many they really do not know the whole will of God!

Thus far, it should not be as for the CHURCH of GOD. We are here to proclaim to you the whole will of God. We are here to keep watch over you, to shepherd you, the Church of God. Let this theme of our Church today be carried on this coming year and the next years to come. Let us focus to study, learn, seek, and follow the whole will of God. Not just a part, but the whole will of God, so that we will experience the best plan of God for us which never harm us but give us the hope and future. The thief (Satan and his followers) come only to steal and kill, to rob and destroy; but Jesus said, “I have come that they (His disciples) may have life and have it to the full or abundantly.

We are the disciples of Jesus Christ and we proclaim the whole will of God. We could be described as full gospel church, but we proclaim not only the fourfold Gospels of

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. We proclaim the whole will of God to mankind using the 66 books of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. The Lord Jesus said in *Matthew 5:17*, ¹⁷ *“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”* In the same manner, we, the commissioned pastors and overseers of the Church of God-UAE shall not leave the preaching of the law and the prophets, but rather continue to proclaim the principles of Christian life written in the Bible – the whole will of God – from Genesis to Revelation, from the time of Creation to the time of Christ’s Second Coming.

In order for you to easily grasp the theme, *“Proclaiming the Whole Will of God”* let me outline to you the points of my message with the acronym WHOLE WILL of God. God’s whole plan for mankind has been revealed to us and we proclaim to you:

W – stands for the WORLD that GOD CREATED. It is God’s will that we shall meditate how God created the whole world perfectly, orderly, in timely manner, and beginning with the command, *“Let there be light.” (Genesis 1:3a)* Through the book of Genesis – the book of beginnings, we proclaim to you the principles that God first mentioned. An example is the family life principles revealed in the early chapters of Genesis which are very important and very applicable to you, if you want to know and follow the whole will of God in starting a family life. *“This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is Light; in Him there is no darkness at all.” (1 John 1:5)*

H – stands for the HOLY GENERATION. In spite of the increase of wickedness when people began to increase in number on earth, God had found a man named Noah, from which a godly generation or race was preserved. If we claim today that we are part of the chosen generation, a royal priesthood and holy nation of God, let us therefore be warned like Noah, and meditate how and why through the ark only 8 souls were saved. *“³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.” (Matthew 24:38-39)*

O – stands for OBEDIENCE TO GOD. From the time of Creation till Jesus Christ will return, just one action is what God requires from mankind – to obey God’s Will. If we decide in our mind and heart to obey God in every way, God will surely unveil His whole will and plan to us. *“Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.” (Amos 3:7)*

L – stands for LIVING IN THE WILDERNESS. There was a period when God kept His chosen people in the wilderness because of their grumbling, complaining, disobedience and unbelief to God’s promises. Shall we learn in the wilderness of distress, sorrow and hardship? Or are we willing to obey the whole will of God in our

life? *“God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.” (Hebrews 11:40)*

E – stands for ENTERING THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY. Since God had planned something better for us, let us gird ourselves to seek and obey His whole will. Let us persevere to enter the land that God promised to our forefathers of faith – the land flowing with milk and honey, or to live a life with the full blessing of the Lord. We have the hope, we have the chance to taste and experience abundant life here on earth, yet many Christians chose to go back or remain in the wilderness. The Bible is complete – the whole will of God to mankind is already revealed, but the choice is left for each one of us to decide, whether to live in the wilderness, or to live in the land flowing with milk and honey. Joshua challenged the community of believers in his time saying, *“You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you.” (Joshua 24:19-20)*

W – stands for the WORD of GOD who became flesh – the Lord Jesus Christ. He dwelt among us to save us and to give us an example on how to live according to God’s Will. His earthly life ended up saying, *“It is finished,”* for He willfully obey the whole will of God the Father. He went back to heaven but He is coming back to judge the living and the dead. Here, let us take note that the first W of the whole will of God means the world, and the second W means the Word. In order for you to know and approve the whole will of God in your Christian life, I urge you to follow the pattern of the Word – Jesus Christ, and *“²Do not conform 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 12:2)*

I – stands for INDIVIDUAL SALVATION. God has planned that salvation is individually received. *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)* Through Jesus Christ’s death on the cross each of us, individually, we are given chance to be forgiven from sin, to be cleansed, to be changed, and to be renewed in the image and likeness of Christ. *“¹²Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:12-13)*

L – stands for LIVING IN THE SPIRIT. Before returning to heaven, Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to come to us, to convict us of sin, to remind us of all His teachings, to regenerate us and to live with us and fill us— in our temporal body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit. *“¹⁶Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him; for God’s temple is sacred, and you are that temple.” (I Corinthians 3:16-17)* The

Holy Spirit is a personal God who is grieved and quenched when we neglect to live a holy life. *“¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.” (Galatians 5:16-21)*

L – stands for the LIFE IN THE HOLY CITY. We all long to be there, in the Holy City where there will be no more crying, no more pain and problems. *“³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their GOD. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” (Revelation 21:3-4)* Do you want to be there? Anybody who wants to be in the Holy City must be aware how to enter there. So let us prepare ourselves as the bride of Christ, without blemish, adorned with righteousness and holiness while living here on earth.

We look forward to live eternally with God in the new heaven and new earth, in the Holy City of God. We continue to preach, teach and proclaim the whole will of God to those who want to be there. We proclaim the kind of life that God has prepared in advance for us, the life that began in the Garden of Eden but was suspended because of sin. Thus we challenge people to repent and turn away from sin, and we proclaim that after man’s fall to sin God has planned a way for the restoration of that blessed life. God said to the old serpent in the garden, *“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” (Genesis 3:15).*

We continue to proclaim the whole will of God so that we, our children, our generation and our disciples will not become ignorant about God and they will not abuse the grace of God. We proclaim the full gospel of Jesus and the whole will of God. Gospel means good news, and this good news is only what people nowadays want to hear from us. But we preach the whole will of God. We proclaim Christ and we proclaim the warnings and destructions waiting for the disobedient but claim to be Christians. So that at the end of our ministry, we can say as Apostle Paul said, *“Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you. ²⁷For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.” (Acts 20:26-27)* We keep watch over you, ourselves, and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made us overseers. We shepherd the Church of God, which Jesus Christ bought with his own blood. We are commissioned to preach, to correct, to rebuke, to encourage with great patience and careful instructions. Yes, when we proclaim the whole will of God, we are also ready to rebuke and correct, to instruct and train disciples to abide in the righteousness and holiness of life through the Words of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are here, proclaiming the whole will of God.