THE WILL OF GOD (Pt. 1)

INTRODUCTION

God has a plan for our world, a plan for each individual. Since He is our Creator, the Sovereign of all this universe, as well as our Savior, we should take interest and pleasure in aligning ourselves with His plan.

There is much in the Scriptures about the will of God. It is obviously clear that God would have us to seek, find, and pursue His will for our lives.

The decisions we make affect more people than we can imagine and the consequences are for more reaching than we can foresee. Recently, my wife and I had a big decision that we had to make and the consequences of our decision would be very impactful on us and others that we deeply care about. We were reminded once again of our need to discern the will of God and follow that regardless of the outcome. This is something we never outgrow and something we never get so spiritual that we do not need to seek God for.

We are in good company, because many wise and great leaders in Scripture sought to discern God's will and way for their lives. God gives us much instruction concerning this in His Word. The phrase "the will of God" is used 23 times in the NT. The Apostle Paul mentioned God's will often in his writings. Moses in the OT was concerned about God's will. He prayed in Exodus 33:13, "Show me now Thy way..."

Let's look at the life story of Abraham's most trusted servant, Eliezer, and learn from him *four directives* to help you to discern God's will for your life. **Genesis 24:1-8**

I. TAKE ACTION (Genesis 24:9-11)

- A. Do as much as you can do. Obey as much as you know.

 God will not do for you what you can and should do yourself!
- B. Don't procrastinate Procrastination is sin.
- C. Consult God's Word (PS 119:105; 33-36a)You cannot think the thoughts of God if you do not read the Words of God.
- **II. PRAY** (Genesis 24:12-14)
 - A. For Direction (Psalm 5:8; 27:11; 143:8-10)
 - B. For Wisdom (James 1:5)

 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God..."

- C. For Pure motives ("our hearts are deceitful"); Integrity (courage to do the right thing)
- D. For Urgency (If Satan cannot lead you wrong, he will try to get you to put off obedience)

III. CONFIRM (Genesis 24:15-21)

Seek confirmation from *spiritual* sources "Out of the mouth of two or three witnesses" (II Corinthians 13:1)

Make sure your inclinations line up with:

- A. God's Word (God never contradicts His Word)
- B. Wise, godly, spiritual authorities (in vs. 1-8, Eliazer received counsel from his spiritual leader) *Proverbs* 11:14; 12:15; 19:20
- C. Circumstances (Genesis 224:12-19)
- D. Peace (Genesis 24:21-27, 48-52)

IV. EXPRESS GRATITUDE (Genesis 24:22-27)

I Thessalonians 5:18 "In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning thee."

Thank God for answered prayer

Thank Him for giving guidance & giving you good counselors, etc.

If you have questions or need further guidance, please feel free to contact us. BBNchat.org or leave an email at BBNbi@bbnmedia.org