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### **Introduction:**

Often, we want God to give us specifics—where to work, where to live, whom to marry, what car to buy. God allows us to make choices, but if we are connected to Him, He will help us from making wrong choices.

Many people want to know what God's plan is for their lives, but they overlook the fact that His *WILL* is in His Word. God is very clear about many aspects of His will. For instance, it is clearly His *will* that we abstain from sexual immorality, lying, stealing, Etc.

WILL= The *intent and purpose of God*, as revealed in Scripture. God has a will for his creation and his people.

**1. What happens when our will conflicts with God's will?** God's will overrule human wills

**God's will and the human will**

**(Proverbs 19:21)** — 21 Many are the *plans in the mind of a man*, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.

**(Psalm 37:4)** — 4 Delight yourself (*also*) in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- David advises us to also expect happiness from God.

## 2. Did Jesus obey the father's will?

### Jesus Christ obeyed his Father's will

**(John 6:38)** — 38 For I have come down from heaven, *not to do my own will* but the will of him who sent me.

**(Matthew 26:39)** — 39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, *not as I will, but as you will.*"

- Jesus came to a point of decision in Gethsemane (*The place of crushing*). If Jesus failed here, he would have failed at cross. His success here made victory possible at the cross.

□ **We must Surrender our will to God's will, and when we do we have victory.**

## 3. Who delivered the children of Israel from Egypt—Moses or God? God did.

- God chose to bring Moses into a relationship with Himself so that He **[God]** could deliver Israel.

## 4. Did Moses ever try to take matters into his own hands? He did!

- In **(Exodus 2:11-15)** Moses killed an Egyptian who had struck a Hebrew.

## 5. What might have happened if Moses had tried to deliver the children of Israel through a human approach?

- Thousands of his countrymen would have been slain in battle.
- Moses tried to personally deliver one Israelite, and that cost him 40 years of exile in Midian working as a shepherd and reorienting his life to God-centered living.

**(EXODUS 2:11-15)** Years later, after Moses had grown up, he went out to his own people and observed their forced labor. He saw an Egyptian striking a Hebrew, one of his people. Looking all around and seeing no one, he struck the Egyptian dead and hid him in the sand. The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, 'Why are you attacking your neighbor?'

‘Who made you a commander and judge over us?’ the man replied. ‘Are you planning to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?’

Then Moses became afraid and thought, ‘What I did is certainly known.’

When Pharaoh heard about this, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in the land of Midian.”

**6. When God delivered the children of Israel, how many Israelite lives were lost? None.**

- In the process God even led the Egyptians to give the Israelites their gold, silver, and clothes.
- Egypt was plundered, the Egyptian army was destroyed, and the Israelites did not lose a single person.

**7. Why do we not realize that it is always best to do things God’s way?**

We cause some of the wreck and ruin in our churches because we have a plan.

We implement the plan and accomplish what we can do.

We ask God to bless our plans, and then we promise to give Him the glory when He does.

God is not glorified by making our plans succeed.

**8. How do God get Glory from our lives?**

- He receives glory when His will is done, His way. Christ is the Head of the body—the church.

**9. What a difference it would make if we obeyed Christ as the Head of that body.**

- He could accomplish more in six months through a people yielded to Him than they could do in 60 years without Him.

**10. What is God’s response to those who will not follow His ways.**

**(Psalm 81:10–12)** I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. Open wide your mouth and I will fill it. <sup>11</sup>“But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. <sup>12</sup>So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices.

**a. *What had God done for Israel?***

**b. *What did God promise His people?***

**c. *How did the people respond?***

**d. *What did God do?***

**11. Read the next two verses to see what could have been true for Israel.**

**(Psalm 81:13–14)** If my people would only listen to me, if Israel would only follow my ways, <sup>14</sup>how quickly I would subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes!

## **12. What could have been true if Israel had listened to and followed God?**

## **13. Why were the children of Israel denied entrance into the promised land?**

**(Hebrews 3:7–19)** So, as the Holy Spirit says: Today, if you hear his voice, <sup>8</sup>do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the wilderness, <sup>9</sup>where your ancestors tested and tried me, though for forty years they saw what I did. <sup>10</sup>That is why I was angry with that generation; I said, ‘Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.’ <sup>11</sup>So I declared on oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’ <sup>12</sup>See to it, brothers, and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. <sup>13</sup>But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness. <sup>14</sup>We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. <sup>15</sup>As has just been said: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.” <sup>16</sup>Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? <sup>17</sup>And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies perished in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup>And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? <sup>19</sup>So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.

## **14. What’s the Danger of Unbelief?**

- God brought Israel out of Egypt with many miraculous signs and wonders. Wouldn’t you think the Hebrews would trust in every circumstance after that? When they arrived in the promised land, however, they did not trust Him to conquer it for them. As a result, they spent the next 40 years wandering in the wilderness.
- In **(Psalm 81)** God reminded Israel that He would have conquered their enemies quickly if they had only followed His plans rather than trusting in their own strength and wisdom.

## **15. Why are people satisfied to pursue their plans when God has so much more for them to experience?**

## **16. How to we let go our plans and pick up God’s plan.**

- We adjust our lives to God so *He* will do through us what *He* wants to accomplish.
- God is not our servant to adjust His activity to our plans.
- We are His servants, and we adjust our lives to what He is about to do.
- If we do not submit, God will allow us to follow our own devices. In following them, however, we will never experience what God wanted to do on our behalf or through us for others.

## **Conclusion:**

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."

This passage teaches us that the children of God should refuse to be conformed to the world and instead allows themselves to be transformed by the Spirit. As our mind is renewed according to the things of God, then we can know God's perfect will.

Knowing God's will is sometimes difficult because *it requires patience*. It's natural to want to know all of God's will at once, but that's not how He usually works. He reveals to us a step at a time. The important thing is that, *as we wait for further direction, we are busy doing the good that we know to do*.

God allows us to make choices, but if we are connected to Him, He will help to prevent us from making wrong choices.

Remember, the better we get to know a person, the more acquainted we become with his or her desires. Get to know God!!!!

**We are His servants, and we adjust our lives to what He is about to do.**