

Siri 3 – 03/18/12

2 ASPECTS OF THE WILL OF GOD

1. GENERAL REVEALED WILL OF GOD
2. SPECIFIC WILL OF GOD

This “general will of God” is IMMEDIATELY available to all and is the same for everyone.

Before we can discover the “specific will of God” for our lives, we must first be committed to pursuing the “general revealed will of God.”

Sometimes we want God to give us specific direction in the place of His “revealed Word or will.”

II Corinthians 6:14-18 - **14** Don't be teamed with those who do not love the Lord or unbelievers, for what do the people of God have in common with the people of sin? How can light live with darkness? **15** And what harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a Christian be a partner with one who doesn't believe? **16** And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For you are God's temple, the home of the living God, and God has said of you, "I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people." **17** That is why the Lord has said, "Leave them; separate yourselves from them; don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you **18** and be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters."

People try to make areas that God makes grey, black and white. Then they try to make the areas He makes black and white, grey"

God's Word is His will, but there are times to ask the question, "If it is your will, Lord?"

When the Word of God doesn't give you specific direction, it is appropriate to ask "If it is your will."

James 4:13-15 – **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."

Once you ask the question, do you know how to determine what the specific will of God is for your personal life?

The issue isn't only knowing when to ask it, but how do you determine the answer?

If you don't know how to determine the specific will of God for your life you will operate in presumption.

Psalm 19:13– Keep back your servant also from ***presumptuous sins***; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

Presumption is dangerous!

How can I know the specific will of God for my life?

SPECIFIC OR INDIVIDUALIZED WILL OF GOD

It is the will of God to know the specific will of God.

God directs from the inside – out under the New Covenant.

Romans 7:22 - For I delight in the law, *Word or Will* of God according to the inward man.

God directs from the outside – in under the Old Covenant

Ways of Getting Specific Direction under the Old Covenant

1. Prophets
2. Fleeces
3. Dreams and Visions

Hebrews 1:1-2 - **1** *In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets* at many times and in *various ways*, **2** but *in these last days* he has *spoken to us by his Son*, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe.

Sent forth the Spirit of His Son, crying ABBA, Father.

Rom 8:14-17

14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs-heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

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Ways of Getting Specific Direction under the New Covenant

1. Inward Witness – Bible promises to every believer
2. Visions – As the Spirit Wills
3. Dreams – As the Spirit Wills
4. Prophets – As the Spirit Wills – *Confirmation, not information*

HOW TO KNOW THE SPECIFIC WILL OF GOD

Romans 8:14-16 - For as many as are **LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD**, they are the sons of God. 15 For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear or *you did not receive the spirit of a slave, to fill you once more with fear*, but you have received the spirit of adoption or sonship, in which we cry out My Father, My Dear Father 16 **The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit** or **the Spirit Himself assures our spirit or the Spirit Himself endorses our inward conviction or the Holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our hearts and tells us that we are the children of God!**

Proverbs 20:27 - **The spirit of man** is the **candle**, **light** or **lamp** of the Lord, searching all **the inward parts** of the belly or heart.

- **GOD DIRECTS THE CHRISTIAN FROM THE INSIDE OUT UNDER THE NEW COV.**

Acts 27:9-10 - When a considerable amount of time had passed and sailing was now unsafe, because the Autumn Fast was now over. Paul warned them 10 And said to them, Sirs **I PERCEIVE** that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only to the cargo and the ship, but also our lives.

Romans 9:1 - I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, **my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit**,