Siri 4

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Romans 8:14-16 - For as many as are LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD, they are the sons of God.

2 ASPECTS OF THE WILL OF GOD

- 1. General or Universal Will of God
- 2. Specific or Individualized Will of God

We are positioned to receive the specific will of God by consistently yielding to the general will of God or the Word of God.

How To Know the Specific Will of God

God directs from the outside – in under the Old Covenant.

Under the Old Covenant only the Prophet, Priest, King, and those with "special assignments" had the Holy Spirit upon them.

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

Under the New Covenant, every believer has the Holy Spirit within them!

<u>John 14:16-17</u> - And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-17 the Spirit of Truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and **shall be in you**.

<u>Colossians 1:27</u> - To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is *Christ in you*, the hope of glory:

<u>Il Corinthians 5:17</u> - When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun, old things have passed away and all things have become new!

<u>II Peter 1:3-4</u> - 3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may be *partakers in the divine nature* and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

It is the inward man that delights in doing the will, or Word, of God and this was absent in the lives of the Old Covenant believers.

Romans 7:22 - For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Under the New Covenant God leads us through the inward man, not through external means, like in the Old Testament.

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

Romans 8:14-16 - 14 For as many as are *LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD*, they are the 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. 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit or assures our spirit or endorses our inward conviction or speaks to us deep in our hearts and tells us that we are the children of God!

As such our inward man has been given a voice called conscience.

Once you have been Born Again, your conscience is a safe guide!

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

Romans 2:13-15 – 13 For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. 14 (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15 since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness...

<u>Acts 27:9-10</u> – 9 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."

Our conscience is what the Holy Spirit bears witness to, when leading the Christian.

NEXT WEEK - UNDERSTANDING YOUR CONSCIENCE