



13 March 2022

DOING HIS WILL

(Part 1)

Matthew 7:21-29

Proverbs 2:1-13; Matthew 12:46-50

Pressing Forward into 2022 - See Discipleship Homework 13 & 14.

Are We Doers or Just Hearers? (James 1:21-22)

- Last Sunday the pastor ended His sermon with five exhortations:
 - ① We need to tremble at God's Word? (Isaiah 66:2) Are we trembling?
 - ② Grow together. (2 Peter 3:17-18) Are we growing as disciples and are we growing together?
 - ③ Pray for each other. Did we pray Colossians 4:12 for each other?
 - ④ Display the "manifold wisdom of God" in how we live our lives? Are we displaying that wisdom to others? (Ephesians 3:10)
 - ⑤ Be GOOD STEWARDS of the grace given to each of us by ministering to one another. (1 Peter 4:10-11) Are we good stewards of God's grace?
- ★ **Are we doers or just hearers of God's Word?**
- At Thursday's Bible study we were seriously warned not to **become** dull of hearing and if we have been Christians for some time we ought to be teachers. (Hebrews 5:11-12)
 - ★ Are we babes still taking in the milk of Scripture or are we disciples studying the solid food of God's Word and exercising ourselves by **doing** what we learn?
 - ☆ **Are we doers or just hearers of God's Word?**

GRACE, GRACE, and MORE GRACE

- God's grace is **AMAZING** and **POWERFUL**.
- God's grace is **ACTIVE** and **WORKING** in each person who has received it.

- God's grace **is TRANSFORMING** God's people **DAILY** into the image of His Son. (Romans 8:31; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:16)

A Lot Happens at Regeneration (John 3:3-8)

- Regeneration ("being born-again") is a SUPERNATURAL ACT of God wherein He "re-creates" a sinner, one of His enemies, into a NEW CREATURE. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- At regeneration, God takes a sinner's heart of stone and replaces it with a NEW heart of flesh. The heart is the center of man's will, emotions, desires, and will. In giving man a new heart God gives man a NEW NATURE. (Ezekiel 36:26; 2 Peter 1:4)
- At regeneration, God gives a sinner HIS SPIRIT to **cause** this new creation to walk in His statutes, so that they will keep His judgments and DO THEM. (Ezekiel 36:27)
- At regeneration, God adopts a sinner into His family making him/her a child of God and an heir of God. (John 1:12-13; James 1:18; 1 John 3:5-10; Romans 8:15-17; Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5)
- At regeneration, God transforms a person living by their own will into a person who now lives to do God's will. (Psalm 42:1-2; 63:1-3; 73:25-26; Matthew 7:21; 12:50; 1 John 2:17)

Either Or

- Either one lives his/her life as they please doing whatever they think is right **OR . . .**
- They live their lives "on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." (1 Peter 4:1-2; Luke 4:4; Matthew 4:4)
- Living life according to what you think is right is making yourself God.

Is DOING the Will of God Important? (Matthew 7:21-23)

- What does Jesus say? "Not everyone who **says**, 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who **does** the will of My Father in heaven."
- Christ meant what He said! Are you doing the will of God?
- A personal testimony that Christ is my personal Saviour and Lord is NOT evidence that you are on your way to heaven - see Matthew 7:22-23)
- Doing the will of God, our Father, is the evidence that one has been born again and a child of God. (Matthew 12:50)
- Doing the will of God is the evidence that you have a NEW HEART with a desire to serve God and His Holy Spirit in you causing you to walk in His commandments. (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

- Is this serious? YES!!!! Many sincerely believe they are Christians when they really are not! MANY will hear, “I **never** knew (contrast his with Jeremiah 1:5) you; depart from Me, you who practice **lawlessness**.” Sin is lawlessness. (Matthew 7:23; **1 John 3:4**) The children of God, those born-again by the will of God, practice righteousness. (1 John 3:6-10)
- How can so many be deceived?
 - ① Many have had a counterfeit gospel preached to them - one does not require continual repentance of sin? They only heard, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.” They did not hear, “Continually repent of your sins and continually believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)
 - ② Many hold to a false doctrine of eternal security believing that a personal testimony that Christ is their Lord and Saviour is the only evidence of God’s supernatural work of regeneration. Obedience to God’s commandments is not part of them living as a Christian despite what Christ and other writers said. (John 8:31; 1 John 2:3-4, 6; Heb 5:9; 1 John 5:3)
 - ③ Many fail to examine themselves and presume on God’s grace. Many will go through their whole life not concerned with their sins against God. They very seldom, if ever, approach God’s throne for mercy. (1 Corinthians 11:28; 13:5; ; Hebrews 4:16)
 - ④ Many trust in religion rather than a genuine relationship with God. (**John 17:2-3; 1 John 2:3-4**; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2).
 - ⑤ Many believe they are good people and measure themselves by others rather than God. (Romans 3:10-18; 2 Corinthians 10:12)
 - ⑥ Many are place their trust in their baptism, confirmation, and other ceremonies. Water baptism, confirmation, circumcision, etc. do not and cannot save anyone. All disciples of Christ are baptized as believers in obedience to Christ. (Matt 28:18-20)
 - ⑦ Many are deceived because they were taught a false understanding of “freedom in Christ”. Many take this to understand that “christians” can choose to pick and choose what commands to obey, obey when they want to, and obey how they want to. “Freedom in Christ” means that Christ sets us free now to live as we **ought** to live in accordance with God’s will. We have be set free from sin (unrighteousness; lawlessness) unto to freedom unto obedience (righteousness). Christians are slaves unto God and His righteousness. (Romans 6:16-22; 15:16; Hebrews 5:9)
 - ⑧ Many deceive themselves by “doing” the least possible and believe they are saved and going to heaven. (Luke 14:26-33; Philippians 3:7-8)
 - ⑨ Many are deceived because of PRIDE. (Obadiah 3; Proverbs 29:23; 1 Corinthians 8:1; Philippians 2:3-8; 1 Peter 5:5; Ephesians 4:2)

What Is the Will of God?

- Simple definition: God's will is what God commands us to do.
- God's imperative verbs are His commands and His will.

Doing the Will of God

- ① Before you can do something you must know it and understand it.
 - ★ The Word of God - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - ★ **SATURATE** your mind with the Word of God. (John 8:31)
 - **READ** it - read it through.
 - **MEMORIZE** it - Psalm 119:11; 37:31; 40:8; Proverbs 2:1; 4:23
 - **MEDITATE** on it - Psalm 1:1-3; Psalm 119:15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148.
 - **ABIDE** in it. (John 8:31)
 - **BE TRANSFORMED** by it. (Romans 12:2)
 - **UNDERSTAND** it. (Ephesians 5:16-18)
 - **PRAY** Colossians 1:9-11
 - **STUDY** it. (2 Timothy 2:15; Proverbs 2:1-5)
- ② Once you know it you must do **IT**.
 - ☆ Deuteronomy 5:32; 12:32; 28:14; Proverbs 4:25-27; Matthew 15:1-9
 - ★ **Exercise** yourself in it - Hebrews 5:13-14
 - ☆ **Stand perfect** and **complete** in **ALL** the will of God - Colossians 4:12

Pressing Forward into 2022

- ① Examine ourselves. (2 Corinthians 13:5; 2 Peter 1:10)
 - ★ Continually examine yourself.
- ② Be **DOERS** of what we hear. (James 1:21-22; Hebrews 2:1-2) Do not be dull of hearing! (Hebrews 5:11)
- ③ Know and understand the will of God. (Proverbs 2:1-6; Eph 5:16-18)
- ④ Pray Colossians 1:9-11 for each other.
- ⑤ **DO** the will of God. Obey God. (1 John 2:17)