## "The Will of God"

# "Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is." (Ephesians 5:17)

## The Example

<u>Luke 22:41-44</u> — (41) "And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, (42) saying, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. <u>Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done</u>.' (43) And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. (44) And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

<u>Hebrews 10:7</u> – "Then I said, 'Behold, <u>I have come to do your will</u>, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book."

### God's Will for Us:

#### To Save Us

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, <u>not willing</u> that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9 *KJV*)

"For this is <u>the will of my Father</u>, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." (John 6:40)

#### **To Transform Us**

"For this is the <u>will of God</u>, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality" (1 Thessalonians 4:3)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the <u>will of God</u> in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

#### To Settle Us

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, <u>I will</u> come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." (Jonn 14:1-3)

## **God's Gracious Help**

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8:26-27)

## **My Choice**

"But the Pharisees and lawyers <u>rejected the will of God</u> for themselves, not having been baptized by him." (Luke 7:30 NKJV)

"And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever." (1 John 2:17)

## **Questions:**

What impacted me the most in this message? Am I asking God daily concerning His will for me? Who helps me in terms of the will of God? (Rom. 8:27) What are some sources from which I can know the will of God? (Ps. 199:105; 1 Tim. 3:15)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)