

THE WILL OF GOD

FALL SEMESTER

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The Definitions of Phrases Relating to the Will of God

1. The Desirous Will

- a) Θελω (Thel-o) Verb “I desire” – The action of desiring (Ex. 1 Tim. 2:4¹)
- b) Θελημα (Thel-ay-ma) Noun – “A desire” – The result of the act of desiring (Ex: Eph. 1:5²)
- c) Θελησις (Thel-ay-sis) Noun – “He was willing” – The active state of desiring (Ex: Heb. 2:4³)
- d) CDJ – The mental formulation of how one would ideally want to see a person act or a situation unfold

2. The Determinative Will

- a) Βουλευω (Boo-loo-oh) Verb “I take counsel” – The action of taking counsel (2 Cor. 1:17⁴)
- b) Βουλομαι (Boo-lo-mai) Verb “I determine” – The action of making a determination (2 Jn. 1:12⁵)
- c) Βουλευτης (Boo-loo-thase) Noun “A counselor” – One who offers counsel (Lu. 23:50⁶)
- d) Βουλημα (Boo-lay-ma) Noun “A determination” – The result of a determination (1 Pet. 4:3⁷)
- e) Βουλη – (Boo-lay) Noun “A Determination” – The state of something determined (Ex: Acts 20:27⁸)
- f) CDJ – Mental contemplation that leads to a conclusive thought on what should take place.

3. The Permissive Will – A theological term that accounts for the fact that God allows men the freedom to act in certain ways that are not in line with His desires.

¹ KJV – We will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

² KJV – Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will

³ KJV – God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to His own will?

⁴ KJV – When I therefore was thus minded, did I use lightness? Or the things that I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh, that with me there should be yea, yea, and nay any?

⁵ KJV – Having many things to write unto you, I would not (passive) *write* with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.

⁶ KJV – And, behold, *there was* a man named Joseph, a counsellor; *and he was* a good man, and a just:

⁷ KJV – For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

⁸ KJV – For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

The allows for freedom for man to choose willfully to follow God's will of their own volition or chose to instead do things which satisfy the flesh.

4. The Revealed Will – A theological term describing the things that can be found in Scripture or through personal revelation to be in accordance with the overall Will of God or God's will for their life in particular.
 5. The Perfect Will – A term found in Scripture which describes where a Believer has submitted his desires to God's and in a state of operating in accordance with God's desires for his life.
 6. The Free Will – A theological term accommodating for the truth that God allowed in creation for man and spirit beings to make choices in accordance with their own desires or His. God will never override these desires, but instead allows for the freedom of choice.
- B. The Structure of the Will of God
1. Pertains to the Persons of the Godhead and Created Beings
 - a) Understanding the Roles and Participation of the Persons of the Godhead
 - b) Understanding the Response of Spirit Beings to the Will of God
 - c) Understanding the Response of Man to the Will of God
 2. The Purpose
 - a) Allows for the Believer Proper Understanding of God's Will for Their Lives
 - b) Allows for the Believer to Identify the Will of God for Their Lives
 - c) Allows for the Believer to Accomplish the Will of God for Their Lives
- I. THE WILL OF GOD PERTAINING TO THE PERSONS OF THE GODHEAD**
- A. The Desirous Will of God
 - B. The Submission of the Son and the Holy Spirit
 - C. The Determinative Will of God
 - D. The Decree
 - E. The Mystery of God's Will
- II. THE WILL OF GOD PERTAINING TO SPIRIT BEINGS**
- A. The Creation of Spirit Beings
 - B. The Fall of Satan and Demons
 - C. The Elect Angels
 - D. The Present Activity of Spirit Beings with Reference to the Will of God
- III. THE WILL OF GOD PERTAINING TO MAN**
- A. The Free Will of Man
 - B. The Will of God through the Dispensations
 - C. Determining the Will of God
 - D. Doing the Will of God

CONCLUSION: