

THE LORD'S WILL (Part 3)

His Deductive Will

"How do I know what the Lord's will is for my life?" and "How will I know when He speaks to me?"

We have started answering these questions by looking at the Lord's DETERMINED WILL and His DESIRED WILL.

1. His DETERMINED Will

"...BY God's WORD the heavens existed and the earth was formed..." 2 Peter 3:5

2. His DESIRED Will

"He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

This week our focus is on the **DEDUCTIVE WILL** of God.

What is a DEDUCTIVE WILL?

Our decisions and choices in this life through which God accomplishes His will.

<i>DETERMINED WILL</i>	<i>God's decision--independent of us</i>
<i>DESIRED WILL</i>	<i>God's decision--Our participation</i>
<i>DEDUCTIVE WILL</i>	<i>Our decisions--God's participation</i>

There are three specific areas of deductive reasoning that affect our decisions in this life:

- 1. CIRCUMSTANCES**
- 2. CONTINGENCIES**
- 3. COUNSEL**

Not all circumstances are good for us...

Our first example may be seen in Matthew 4:1-11.

- *Three times tempted—three times recognizing NOT to act on these circumstances.*
- *Romans 12:1-2*

"...be _____ by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is..."

Circumstances may be opportunities

The decisions we make are often a result of several circumstances presented in a very short time or even overlapping one another.

- *Mark 5:21-43 A miracle within a miracle*
- *There may not be just one response available or pleasing to God.*
- *How can we learn to respond as quickly to circumstances as Jesus did?*
- *Matthew 7:24*

"Therefore _____ who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his _____ on the rock."

How can we know what is good?

Decisions must be made, but how can we know which circumstances are going to accomplish God's will?

- *Paul prayed for the Christians in Philippi for this very reason. Philippians 1:9-11*
- *We need to pray for each other that we will grow in knowledge and depth of insight.*
- *James 1:5*

"If any of you lacks _____, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

What does this mean to me?

- *Circumstances are presented every day...*
- *Each of us is faced with decisions through which God's will is accomplished...*
- *Are your daily—hourly—decisions spiritually discerned?*

"...you are a _____ people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people _____ to God..."
1 Peter 2:9