

Knowing God's Will

Session 1 – Selected Scriptures

Theme: _____

Two Questions About God's Will:

I. What is _____ ?

A. God's S_____ Will (Will of D_____)

Definitions

Countryside Doctrinal Statement/Distinctives

We believe and teach that God the Father, the first Person of the Trinity, orders and executes all things according to His own purpose and grace...As the only absolute and omnipotent Ruler in the universe, He is sovereign in creation, providence, and redemption. He has decreed for His own glory all things that come to pass. He continually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events. In His sovereignty He is neither the author nor approver of sin, nor does He diminish or destroy the accountability of moral, intelligent creatures.

We believe God is absolutely sovereign over everything that happens in His universe. Psalm 103:19 says, "The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all." God has supreme and unfettered freedom and power to act. Sovereign is what God is—by virtue of being God, He rules. Providence is what He does—He carries out His rule by actually administering every detail in His creation.

Westminster Confession

God from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of His own will, freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass; yet so, as thereby neither is God the author of sin, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures; nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established.

Is this aspect of God's will biblical?

What is the purpose of God's sovereign will?

What is included in God's sovereign will?

B. God's M_____ Will (Will of D_____)

Definitions

Wayne Grudem

God's declared will concerning what we should do or what God commands us to do.

Garry Friesen

God's moral will consists of the revealed commands in the Bible that teach how people ought to believe and live.

Kevin DeYoung

...what God has commanded—what He desires from His creatures. If the will of decree is how things are, the will of desire is how things ought to be.

Is this aspect of God's will biblical?

What is the purpose of God's moral will?

How is God's moral will revealed?

C. God's I _____ Will (Will of D _____)???

Definitions

Garry Friesen

God's ideal, detailed life-plan uniquely designed for each person.

Kevin DeYoung

...His individual, specific plan for the who, what, where, when, and how of our lives.

Is this aspect of God's will biblical?

II. What is God's Will _____ ?

**How to Know the Will of God, John MacArthur*

A. S _____

B. S _____

C. S_____

D. S_____

E. S_____

Implications:

Concerning God's sovereign will:

- 1) You can't break God's sovereign will
- 2) God knows that you are not omniscient

Concerning God's moral will:

- 3) Even if there is not a "right" decision, there is always a right way to make it
- 4) When making decisions, God's moral will should be primarily on your mind
(not God's sovereign will)

Concerning God's "individual" will:

- 5) If you are walking in God's moral will (saved, sanctified, etc.), do not fear that you are not "walking in God's will"

*If you are seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
you will be in God's will, so just go out and do something.*

Kevin DeYoung