

THE PERFECT WILL OF GOD

Romans 12:1-2 I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him^{1 2} Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

What is the Perfect Will of God?

I. _____

1 Thessalonians 5:18 Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is **God's will** for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

II. _____

1 Timothy 2:2-5 Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity.³ This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who **wants everyone to be saved** and to understand the truth. ⁵ For, there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed but **wants everyone to repent**.

III. _____

1 Thessalonians 4:1-3 We urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to live in a way that pleases God, as we have taught you. You live this way already, and we encourage you to do so even more. ² For you remember what we taught you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. ³ **God's will is for you to be holy**, so stay away from all sexual sin.

Greek: Hagiamos - to be set apart as holy

Key: 1 Peter 1:2 God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy. As a result, you have obeyed him and have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

IV. _____

Ephesians 5:17-20 Don't act thoughtlessly but understand what **the Lord wants you to do**.¹⁸ Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, **be filled with the Holy Spirit**,¹⁹ singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves and making music to the Lord in your hearts. ²⁰ And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

V. _____

1 Peter 2:13-17 For the Lord's sake, submit to all human authority—whether the king as head of state,¹⁴ or the officials he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right. ¹⁵ **It is God's will** that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you. ¹⁶ For you are free, yet you are God's slaves, so don't use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. ¹⁷ Respect everyone and love the family of believers. Fear God, and respect the king.

VI. _____

1 Peter 3:14-17 even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. ¹⁵ Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶ But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. ¹⁷ Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!

VI. The Surety of Walking in His Will

A. We receive the _____

1 Corinthians 2:9b-12; 16 No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him. ¹⁰ But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. ¹¹ No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own spirit. ¹² And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. . . .¹⁶ For, "Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him? But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.

B. _____ - _____

Romans 8:6b Letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

