

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a rolled-up scroll. The scroll is made of aged, yellowish paper and is tied with a piece of light brown twine. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with the thumb and fingers gripping the scroll. The background is a warm, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise scene with orange and yellow light rays filtering through a dark, textured sky. The overall mood is one of wisdom, history, and revelation.

# PERFECT WILL <sup>VS</sup> PERMISSIVE WILL



A survey was done with

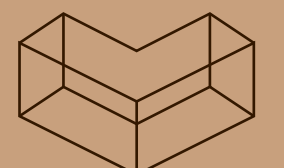
**5,000**

regular churchgoers

**Q:** What is the **number one message** you would like your pastor to preach?

#1 Answer

**A:** What does the Bible say about the future?



A survey was done with

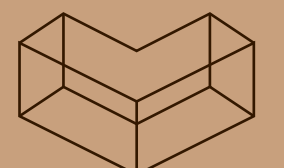
**5,000**

regular churchgoers

**Q:** What is the **number one message** you would like your pastor to preach?

#2 Answer

**A:** How do I know **WHAT** the will of God is for my life?



# THE MOST DEFINITIVE PASSAGE ON THE WILL OF GOD IS

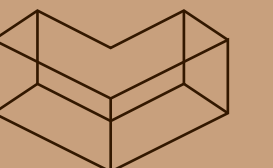
Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.  
<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that **GOOD** and **ACCEPTABLE** and **PERFECT** will of God.

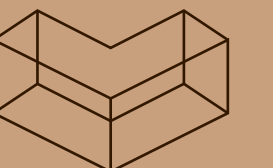


3 WORDS TO  
DESCRIBE GOD'S  
WILL - **GOOD,**  
**ACCEPTABLE,**  
**AND PERFECT.**

- 1 The word "**Good**" is the Greek word "**Agathos**"
- 2 The word "**Acceptable**" is the Greek word "**Euarestos**"
- 3 The word "**Perfect**" is the Greek word "**Teleios**"



The fallacy is - we think IF we only knew what  
the will of God is, then it is easy to do it.







In Gethsemane the holiest of all petitioners prayed three times that a certain cup might pass from Him. It did not.

- C.S Lewis



2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **NOT WILLING** that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

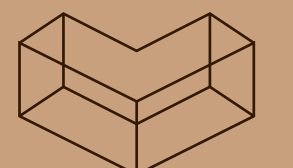




The lowest level of the will of God is  
**"THE SOUL THAT SINS SHALL DIE"**

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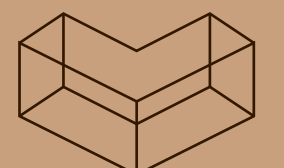
The ultimate level of the Will of God is  
**"ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN"**



## HERE ARE SEVERAL ASPECTS ON THE WILL OF GOD

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- I God has not given us the ability to direct our own lives.





Jeremiah 10:23

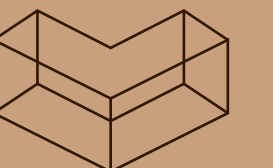
Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself;  
it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.



## HERE ARE SEVERAL ASPECTS ON THE WILL OF GOD

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- 2 How we respond to what God is doing **NOW** will determine our participation in the next step.





Luke 7:30

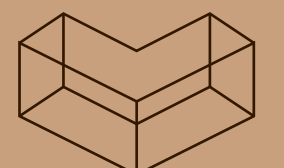
The Pharisees and the experts of the law  
**REJECTED** the Will of God.



## HERE ARE SEVERAL ASPECTS ON THE WILL OF GOD

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- 3 God's Will involves **DOING** what He has called you to **DO**. Good intentions are not enough.







The will of God is not something you add to your life. It's a course you choose. You either line yourself up with the Son of God or you capitulate to the principle which governs the rest of the world.

- Elizabeth Elliot



Luke 12:47

The servant who knew his master's will and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be "beaten" with many stripes".

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Luke 12:48

The servant who did not know yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few.

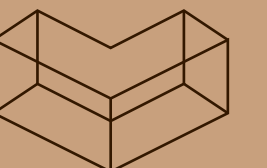




## HERE ARE SEVERAL ASPECTS ON THE WILL OF GOD

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- 4 You are never **SAFER** than when you are in God's Will.





I'd rather be in the heart of  
Africa in the **WILL** of God  
than on the throne of England  
out of the **WILL** of God.

- David Livingstone



The final question I want to address is

# How does the Bible describe the Will of God?



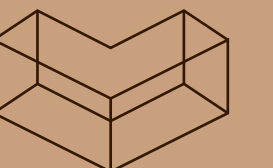


## 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

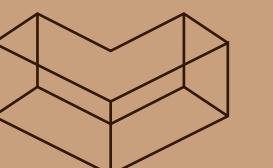
Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing,  
<sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the  
will of God in Christ Jesus for you."



- I The will of God is not merely focused on whether I should be a doctor, or an engineer or a teacher or politician, or whether we should buy this car or that car, or this house or that house...



- 2 That rejoicing always, praying without ceasing and the giving of thanks are acts of our WILL, and in times of difficulty and weakness, they will require persistence.





## 1 Thessalonians 4:3

For this is the will of God,  
your sanctification: that you  
should abstain from sexual immorality;

