

Good, Acceptable, and Perfect Will

Being in God's perfect will is being willing and obedient to whatever the Lord is telling you to do in the moment. God doesn't give us more than we can handle.

(Luke 12:48) For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

As we grow in Jesus Christ we will continually be transformed by the renewing of our mind, and enables us to discern and choose to walk in the perfect will of God. There is a good, an acceptable, and a perfect will of God.

Romans 12:1,2

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, **that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.***

When we examine the definition of these words with the Greek, one can see there is actually a vast difference between these words.

Good: Benefit, good, well, valuable or virtuous (for appearance or use), better, fair, honest, worthy.

Acceptable: Fully agreeable, well pleasing, well done, reason (through the idea of exciting emotion), agreeable, to seek to be so.

Perfect: Complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character), completeness, full age, man, perfect, to set out for a definite point or goal, point aimed at as a limit, the conclusion of an act or state, termination, result, ultimate or prophetic purpose, impost or levy (as paid), continual, end, finally, uttermost, bear, carry, be, bring(forth), come, be driven, endure, go on, lay, lead, move, reach, rushing, uphold.

James 1:4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

1 Pet. 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

One can settle for God's good or acceptable will in their lives, and they may produce some fruit for the kingdom of God, but not to the fullness. The seeds that fell on the good ground in Jesus' parable of the sower yielded 30, 60, and 100 fold. Whatever our giftings and talents, we are all capable of yielding an hundred fold. It is a matter of our heart in obedience to God and His Word.

This is a walk of faith, and faith comes from hearing God's voice.

2 Cor. 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight:

Rom. 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

One learns to hear God's voice through discipleship. Discipleship is a lifelong commitment with much needed accountability. Through loving godly discipleship one will learn their giftings and calling and how to walk them out to the fullness. Eph. 4:1-3, 11-16

This is not through a program of man-made rules or guidelines. It is by learning to daily walk in the Spirit, discerning the perfect will of God for one's life. For example, one could go out and visit the sick in the hospital when the Lord's perfect will could be to go witness to a single person in a grocery store. It is good to visit the sick but is that what the Lord is saying to do? God's desire is that we inquire of Him in every detail of our lives. *Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (Prov. 3:5-6)*