

ORIENTATION TO WILL OF GOD (#2)

Teleiology is a theological term used to describe the study of spiritual growth maturity in CWL.

We are currently studying 12 church age doctrines that are essential for spiritual growth maturity.

Our lesson text comes from a story within a story. The story is the conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well (John 4:1-42). The inside story is the conversation between Jesus and His disciples regarding this woman and food (4:8, 31-38).

We will examine our lesson text by the following five homiletical points.

- Food (Jn.4:8, 31-33) Body
- Food (Jn.4:34) Soul
- Field (Jn.4:35) Ready for harvest
- Fruit (Jn.4:36a) Eternal Life
- Followers (Jn.4:36b-38, 41-42) Labor of sowing and reaping

Today's lesson will come from **John 4:34** - "Jesus said to them (disciples), 'My food is that (hina) [for 2 purpose clauses] I do (**poieo / a.a.subj**) the will (to thelema) of Him (God, the Father) who sent Me and to accomplish (**teleioo / a.a.subj**) His work.'"

Today's lesson will study four aspects to the mechanics to Orientation to Will of God.

1. Jesus outlined two important purposes associated with Orientation to the Will of God in John 4:34 by two aorist, active, subjunctive clauses.

- The first important aspect that Jesus mentioned was **doing the will of God**.
- The second important aspect was **accomplishing the work of God**.

Jesus pressed His disciples on these two mechanics associated with the will of God because of the importance of the universal gospel of grace salvation (unlimited atonement included the Samaritans)

(Jn.4:27) "At this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman, yet no one said, 'what do You seek?' or 'Why do You speak to her?'"

(Jn.4:35) "Do not say, 'there are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, 'lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.'"

(Jn.4:39) "From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, 'He told me all the things that I have done.'"

(Titus 2:11) "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men." (**Unlimited Atonement**)

2. There are three spheres of "wills" in the world.

- God's will Divine Viewpoint and truth (Rom.12:2; Col.1:9)
- Satan's will Cosmos Diabolicus and lies (2 Tim.2:26; John 8:44)

- Human will Volition (Free Will) of the soul (2 Pet.1:21; Matt.26:39; John 1:13)

Human volition is the target in the angelic conflict (God's will verses Satan's will)

(2 Cor.4:3-4) "And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the **god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." (Matt.4:1-11)

(Acts 26:18) "To open their eyes so that they may turn **from darkness to light** and **from the dominion of Satan to God**, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me." (Col.1:13)

3. There are three classifications of the will of God for the Christian Way of Life (CWL).

Directive will of God – It is the revealed word of God pertaining to what He wants the believer to do.

Permissive will of God – It is what God permits to slide regarding the doing of His will before He intervenes.

Over-ruling will of God – It is God intervening to assure that His will is done according to His plan.

Jonah offers an example of these three classifications of the Will of God.

- Directive will to Jonah (Jonah 1:1-2) Great city Nineveh
- Permissive will to Jonah (Jonah 1:3-16) Great storm and thrown into sea
- Over-ruling will of God (Jonah 1:17- 2:10) Great sea monster stomach

Jonah confessed his sin (1 John 1:9; Jonah 4:2) and was restored to fellowship with God (Jonah 2:1-10). Then the directive will of God started all over again Jonah 3:1-3).

4. There are three functional categories of the will of God necessary to complete the directive will of God.

Mental will of God – It is what God wants believer to think regarding the revealed directive will God.

Operational will of God – It is what God wants believer to do regarding the directive will of God.

Geographical will of God – It is where God wants believer to do the revealed directive will of God.

- All three of these functional categories are necessary to fulfill the directive will of God.

Let's apply them to the directive will of God for Jonah.

- Mental will of God (Jonah 1:1-2; 3:1-2; 4:10-11)
- Operational will of God (Jonah 1:2; 3:2-5)
- Geographical will of God (Jonah 1:2-3; 3:1-3)

"God works all things after the counsel of His will." (Eph.1:11b)