

Judges Series

Lesson #59

June 7, 2022

Dean Bible Ministries

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**How to Know the Will of God
for YOUR Life
Judges 6:31–35**



JUDGES

2021

When Chaos Was King

What the Bible Teaches About

Knowing God's Will for Your Life



Six Things to Know about God's Will

1. We can talk about God's will in various ways:

“The Bible says that everything that happens is God's will, therefore we can relax because even though we don't understand it all, we know that a loving God is in control.”

“It is not God's will for a believer to marry an unbeliever.”

“He is trying to determine God's will in what job offer to accept.”

1. We can talk about God's will in various ways:

“The Bible says that everything that happens is God's will, therefore we can relax because even though we don't understand it all, we know that a loving God is in control.” **God's *sovereign will***.

“It is not God's will for a believer to marry an unbeliever.” **God's *revealed or moral will***.

“He is trying to determine God's will in what job offer to accept.” **God's *individual will for the believer's life***.

2. In one sense, God has clearly revealed His will to us. He isn't playing a guessing game.

3. God's will is communicated differently in different dispensations.

In the dispensation of human conscience, there was no Temple or central sanctuary where believers were commanded to go worship.

In the dispensation of the Law, specific commands related to feast days and sacrifices were given.

In the dispensation of the Church, there is no central sanctuary and no Temple.

4. God's foremost will is for every human being to believe in Jesus as their Savior who died for their sins, and be saved.

1 Tim. 2:3, “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

1 Tim. 2:4, “who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

5. God's second will is for every believer to grow spiritually. 1 John 2:17

1 John 2:17, “And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be pressed into the mold of the thinking of the age [*zeigeist*] of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your thinking, that you may demonstrate that the will of God is good and acceptable and complete.”

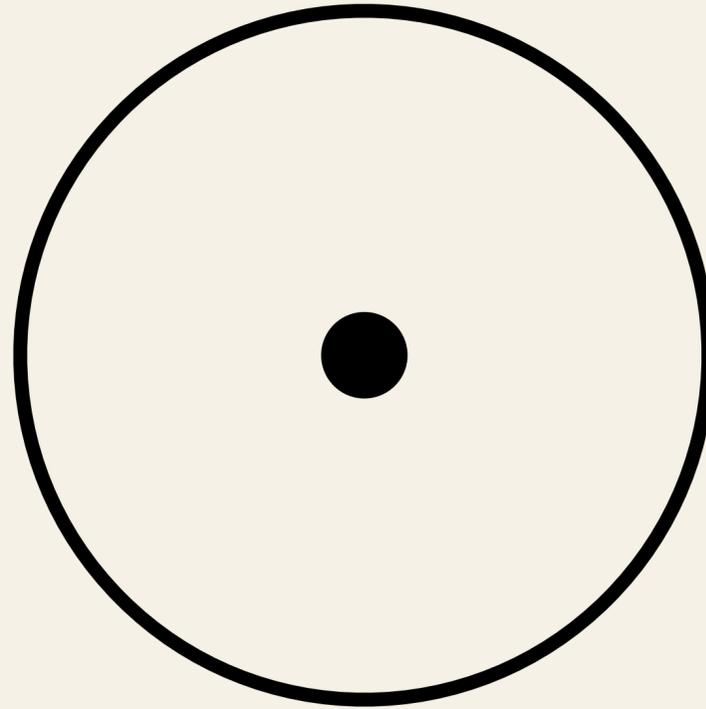
2 Pet. 3:18, “but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”

6. The Christian life is designed to give evidence that God's will is complete.

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be pressed into the mold of the thinking of the age [*zeigeist*] of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your thinking, that you may demonstrate that the will of God is good and acceptable and complete.”

Misconceptions About God's Will

Living in the Center of God's Will



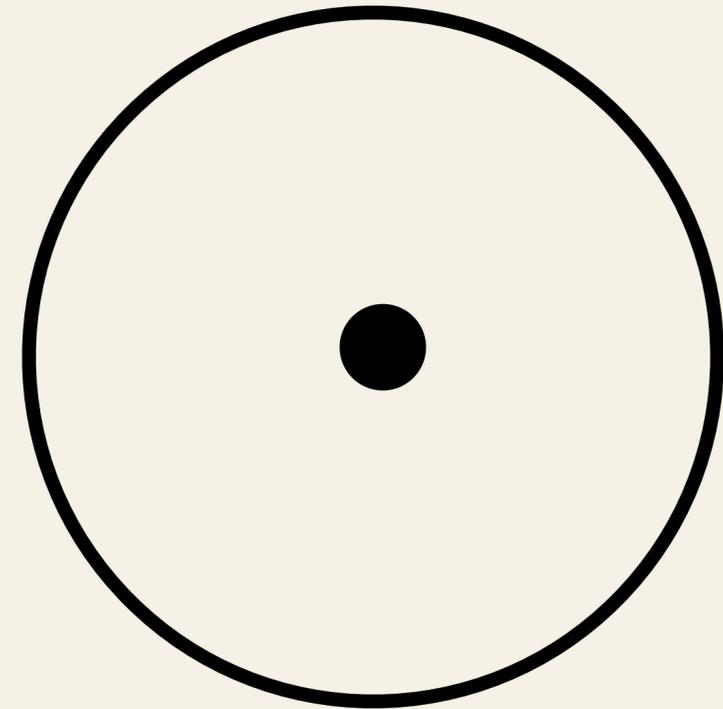
Living in the Center of God's Will

God has a specific will for how and what each believer thinks.

God always has a specific operational will for each believer.

God always has a specific geographical will for every believer.

God always has a specific will for every decision we make in life.



Clarifying the Terms

1. The term “will of God” describes three aspects of divine volition in relation to His creation.

a. God's sovereign will with regard to His creation, where He brings to pass what He wills and what He has decreed.

Decretive will of God: what God decreed would happen

Sovereign will of God: what God willed would happen

Secret will of God: not revealed, what God determined would happen

Permissive will of God: what God allows to happen

God's sovereign will included allowing or permitting sin, rebellion, and all that flows from that.

We only know this after the fact.

b. God's moral will, sometimes also called His revealed will: this refers to what God has revealed man is to do. This is also called God's desired will.

The Torah expressed God's moral will for Israel. Some of it is His moral will also for all mankind. But the Law was Israel's national constitution.

God expressed His specific geographical will or specific operational will through special revelation, i.e., ...

Gen. 12:1, “Now the LORD had said to Abram: ‘Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you.’ ”

Ex. 3:10, “Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

Josh. 1:2, “Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel.

Josh. 1:3, “Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.”

Judg. 6:14, “Then the LORD turned to him and said, ‘Go in this might of yours, and you shall deliver Israel from the hand of the Midianites. I have sent you,’ ~RD

Judg. 6:15, “So he said to Him, ‘O my Lord, how can I deliver Israel? Look, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my family.’ ~RD

Judg. 6:16, “And the LORD said to him, ‘I will be with you, and you shall strike down the Midianite army as one man.’ ” ~RD

c. God's specific will, functional, operational, or geographical, is always expressed through special revelation or through His behind-the-scenes orchestration of events.

We cannot miss the geographical will of God, if there is one, i.e., Jonah.

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We cannot miss the geographical will of God, if there is one, i.e., Jonah.

Jonah 1:1, “Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

Jonah 1:2, “ ‘Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me.’ ”

Ezek. 4:1, “You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and portray on it a city, Jerusalem.

Ezek. 4:2, “Lay siege against it, build a siege wall against it, and heap up a mound against it; set camps against it also, and place battering rams against it all around.

Ezek. 4:3, “Moreover take for yourself an iron plate, and set it as an iron wall between you and the city. Set your face against it, and it shall be besieged, and you shall lay siege against it. This will be a sign to the house of Israel.

Ezek. 4:4, “Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it. According to the number of the days that you lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity.”

Acts 10:3, “About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, ‘Cornelius!’

Acts 10:4, “And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, ‘What is it, lord?’ So he said to him, ‘Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.

Acts 10:5, “ ‘Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter.

Acts 10:6, “ ‘He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do.’ ”

d. God's overriding will.

When we make decisions contrary to God's specific geographical or operational will, He prevents us from accomplishing those decisions.

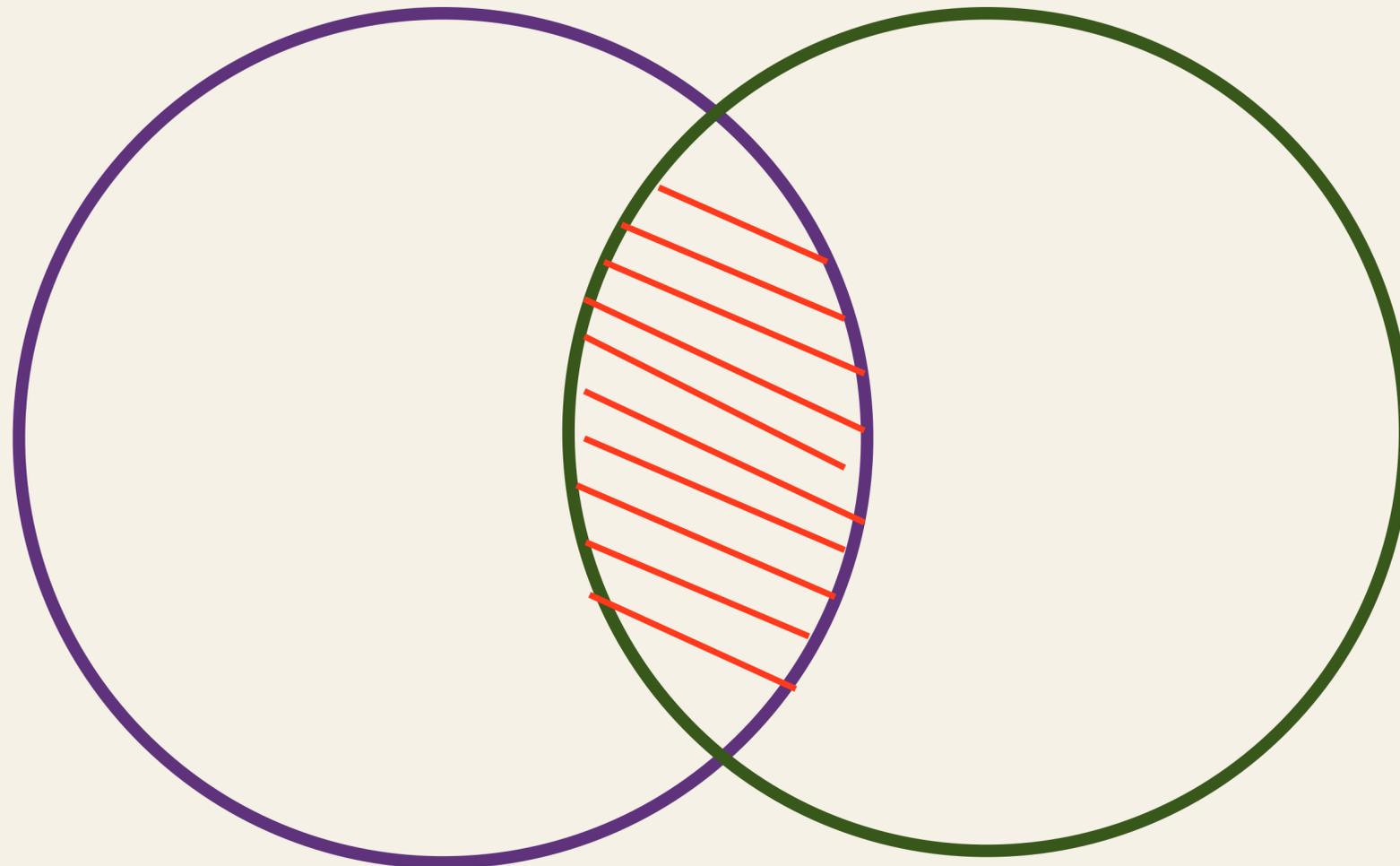
Example: Jonah

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Jonah 1:2, " 'Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me.' "

**God's Sovereign
Will
(unknown)**

**God's Moral/
Revealed Will
(known)**



God's Moral/Revealed Will

**Boundaries
defined
by the
mandates,
imperatives,
prohibitions
in Scripture**



**Outside of
God's moral,
revealed will**

2. Key verses for God's sovereign will

Dan. 4:35, “And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven, And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, ‘What hast Thou done?’ ”