

who is your GOD



lesson 3 study guide – 01/27/2016

Quick Mental Activity

Simultaneously think about the following events:

- What you were doing at 2pm on January 27, 2006.
- What you were thinking about at 2pm on January 27, 2016.
- What your plans are for January 27, 2026.

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and the knowledge of God!
How unsearchable His judgments and untraceable His ways!
For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?
Or who has ever first given to Him, and has to be repaid?
For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

Session Objective

☞ To apply to our lives the difference between God's _____ will
and His _____ will.

What is Will?

The will in man is that function of the soul by which man is conscious of choices, of causes and effects, and by which he decides to _____, prompted and influenced by any number of things inside or outside of himself.¹

Share 3 examples of when *your* “will” decides to act on something.

1

2

3

God has revealed his will to us only in the _____.

Give 5 examples of God’s revealed will in his Scriptures.

1

2

3

4

5

¹ *Grace Abounds, The Splendor of Christian Doctrine*; Daniel M. Deutschlander, page 121

Much of God's _____ is _____ from us. As Paul wrote in Romans 11, "Who has known the _____ of the Lord?"

Look at the following scenarios. Describe what God's *revealed* will is and where his will is *hidden*.

Scenario	Revealed Will	Hidden Will
<p>A man has been dating a lady for quite some time. He wonders if he should ask her to marry him.</p>		
<p>A couple is wrestling with the opportunity for a new location for employment and a new purchase of a home. They wonder if they should uproot and move.</p>		
<p>The man's cancer has returned with force. The radiation and chemotherapy were difficult the first time. He wonders if he should go through it again.</p>		

Exodus 33:12-23

Moses and the Glory of the LORD

Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favor with me.’ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”



Compare Moses' request to Elijah's experience in 1 Kings 19:8-13.

The apostle Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the *words* of eternal life" (John 6:68). Describe a situation in someone's life where that person is looking for more than *mere words* to give assurance.

How can distinguishing between God's *revealed* will and *hidden* will help that person?

Why is it often foolish arrogance to say, "God, why are you allowing _____ to happen to me?"

Exodus 34:1-7

The Sermon on the Name of the LORD

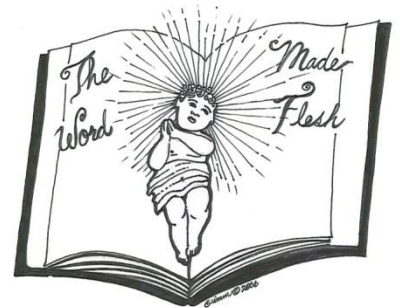
The LORD said to Moses, “Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to me there on top of the mountain. No one is to come with you or be seen anywhere on the mountain; not even the flocks and herds may graze in front of the mountain.”

So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”



God's will is revealed in his *LAW* and in his *GOSPEL*. He shows his dreadful wrath and his infinite grace. He forgives sin and yet does not let the guilty unpunished. Describe how these seeming "contradictions" can **ONLY** be resolved in Jesus Christ.

When times get tough, we may desire to look inside the mind of God and try to understand his hidden will. How are the written Word and the Word made flesh the only real answers to understanding God's will?



Next Study: February 3 ... 6pm & 8pm CST

"God's Message and Ministry of Reconciliation" – 2 Corinthians 5