

HIS WILL, HIS WAYS AND OUR THOUGHTS

Our team has spent a great deal of time talking, praying and pursuing the will of God for the days ahead. We want our thoughts and our way of thinking to be in agreement with the Will of God. Today we will investigate how we can be 'Thinking into His Will'.

⁹ For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. Colossians 1:9-12 NASB

- ***Paul's prayer for the church at Colosse:***
 - ***He prays that they would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding. (v9)***
 - ***The Amplified Bible says that his prayer is for them to have... "comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God, and in understanding and discernment of spiritual things..." (v9)***
 - ***He prays these things so that they might have a 'worthy walk.'" (v10)***

¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. Ephesians 4:1-2 NASB

- ***He prays that they will be pleasing to the Lord in all respects, in deeds, and devotional desires.***
- ***He prays that they will be fruitful in every good work, growing and increasing in the knowledge of God. (v10)***

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. Ephesians 1:17 NASB

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16 NASB

- ***Paul prays that the light of their lives and their labor of love will grow increasingly.***
 - ***He prays that as they grow in their knowledge of God they will be strengthened with all power according to His glorious might...***
 - ***...“That they be invigorated and strengthened with all power according to the might of His glory...” Colossians 1:11 AMPC***
 - ***All power, the power of His Word, His ways, His love, His character, His gifts, and His wisdom.***
 - ***This invigorating power is to equip us for every kind of endurance, patience, and forbearance, with joy. V11 AMPC***
 - ***This is to result in our thanking God for Him qualifying us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.***
 - ***He has qualified everyone who believes in Jesus to share the inheritance of the saints in light.***
 - ***We know this because:***

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son. Colossians 1:13 NASB

- ***His rescue of us qualifies us in His eyes for His kingdom and His family.***
- ***This is some prayer!***

***The plans of the heart belong to a person, But the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.
2 All the ways of a person are clean in his own sight, But the Lord examines the motives.
Proverbs 16: 1-2 NASB***

- ***Checking the eyes of our heart. V2***
 - ***A man’s conduct may strike him as pure, Yahweh, however weighs the motives. V2 (The Jerusalem Bible)***
 - ***All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but the Lord weighs the motives. V2 NASB***

- ***All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirits (the thoughts and intents of the heart). V2 Amplified Bible***

³ Commit your works to the LORD, And your plans will be established. ⁴ The LORD has made everything for its own purpose, Even the wicked for the day of evil. ⁵ Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Be assured, he will not go unpunished.

⁶ By mercy and truth atonement is made for wrongdoing, And by the fear of the LORD one keeps away from evil. Proverbs 16: 3-6 NASB

- ***Committed to and established by Him:***

- ***Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established. V3 NASB***
- ***Roll your works on Jehovah, and your thoughts will be blessed. V3 Interlinear Bible***
- ***Roll your works upon the Lord [commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will, and] so shall your plans be established and succeed. V3 Amplified Bible***
- ***He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will-let's pray this!***
- ***⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. V5-6 NASB***
- ***⁵Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. ⁶ In all your ways know, recognize and acknowledge Him and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths. V5-6 Amplified Bible***

- ***Partnering with the Holy Spirit to see our thoughts become more agreeable to His will.***

- ***Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to***

God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

- **Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 NASB**
- **²² that, in reference to your former way of life, you are to rid yourselves of the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, ²³ and that you are to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth. Ephesians 4:22-24 NASB**
- **Hebrews 5:14 NKJV**
 - **But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**
 - **“Who on account of constant use have their faculties trained.” WILLIAMS**
- **Self-enclosed thinking is a dead end street. (Proverbs 16:2-3)**
 - **We need ‘truth’ filters, ‘love’ filters, and ‘friend’ filters for our thoughts....prayer is a powerful thought filter as well. Pray it!**
 - **Most self-conceived short cuts are really empty alleys!**
 - **Spiritual hunger and thirst urges us on to more of God.**
 - **A worker’s appetite works for him, For his hunger urges him on. Proverbs 16:26 NASB**

- ***A satisfied person despises honey, But to a hungry person any bitter thing is sweet. Proverbs 27:7 NASB***
- ***PRAY for a spiritual appetite!***