

THE WILL OF GOD

Request: “I hear people talking about the will of God regarding just about everything. How do you determine the will of God regarding decisions that are not specifically stated in the Bible?”

For example, the Bible says that I should work – “If a man will not work, he shall not eat.” (2 Thess.3:10) But suppose I can’t find work to pay the bills and I have reduced as much as I can without being homeless?

Is there a common standard that could be used regarding the will of God that could be applied no matter what the circumstances?”

This lesson will study four common standards of the will of God that could be applied to all circumstances of CWL (Christian way of life).

1. The first common standard is to understand that there are three spheres of wills in the world.

- **God’s will** (John 1:12-13; Luke 22:42)
- **Satan’s will** (2 Tim.2:26; 1 Tim.4:1; 2 Pet.2)
- **Human will** (John 1:13; 2 Pet.1:21; Luke 12:47; 22:42; 23:25)

2. The second common standard is the three-fold progressive work of the will of God.

- **Word of God** (Ps.143:10; Matt.6:10; 26:39)
- **Will of God** (Rom.12:2; Eph.5:17-18; James 4:13-17; 1 John 5:4)
- **Work of God** (Phil.2:13; 1 Thess.4:1-8)

3. The third common standard is the three categories of applying the will of God.

- **Directive will** of God (Jonah 1:1-2)
- **Permissive will** of God (Jonah 1:3)
- **Overruling will** of God (Jonah 1:4-17)

4. The fourth common standard is three classifications that must line-up in making a decision regarding the will of God.

- **Geographical will** of God (Gen.12:1)
- **Mental will** of God (Gen.12:2-3)
- **Operational will** of God (Gen.12:4; Heb.11:8-10)