

# INTERPRETING GOD'S WILL!

## *Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:8-12*

*8Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away with; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away with. 9For we know in part and prophesy in part; 10but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away with. 11When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. 12For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I also have been fully known.*

**Introduction:** I will be preaching different topics until Easter. I will be elaborating some of the topics that is discussed in our Bible study. The book we are studying is Experiencing God, which is an interesting book. It tells us that God does not give us the complete detail of our life's road map. He just shows us the next step. Even for that next step we may have to wait a while. Often times, we jump the gun with partial understanding of God's will in our lives. We must allow God to reveal His will and prophecies step by step, and refrain from misinterpreting God's will for us! Bible is full of stories where great heroes make errors concerning reading God's will in their lives! It is so easy to misinterpret God's will. Let me bring out some examples, and let them be serious warning for all of us!

First, let me start with a very familiar one!

## **God's prophecy to Abraham!**

*Gen. 12:1,2. 1Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; 2And I will make you into a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great;*

Here, God tells Abraham to get out of his homeland and from his family members. Abraham had no one now. He was forced to trust in God alone. God just showed the very first move to Abraham. He didn't even tell him where he should go. God told him, He will show him the place. Abraham had no children, yet God says that He will make Abraham into a great nation and bless him! Nothing was given, nothing was shown. Abraham had to walk by faith, and find all the plans of God in his life one step at a time.

How about us? Right now, God is showing just the next step to us. Focus on it. When you complete the first step, He will show you the second step. It is always one step at a time!

But we tend to deviate when we start assuming God's will for us! Please note the following passage!

*Gen. 15:3-6. 3Abram also said, "Since You have given me no [son,] one who has been born in my house is my heir." 4Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your [i]descendants be." 6Then he believed in the LORD; and He credited it to him as righteousness.*

Abraham assumes that his heir will come through his servant Eleazor. God removes that doubt quickly by saying, "the one who will come from your own body shall be your heir!" He promises that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky! Then Abraham believed, and it was credited to him for righteousness!

God was very specific about Abraham getting a son from his own body. But He did not mention anything about that child through Sarah deliberately, thereby testing Sarah's faith!

Sarah misread this prophecy, and fumbled quickly!

*Gen. 16:2. 2So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please have relations with my slave woman; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.*

When God gives a prophecy, we try to fulfill it with our own plan and works. We will see this trend often in the Bible. Sarah went through so many trials and tribulations because of her own ill-conceived plan. God let her go through her own trials because of her lack of faith in Him. It was a horror story for both Sarah and Abraham! Our misinterpretations of God's will can be very expensive, and painful! Let us not assume God's will in our lives, and do something. It can get us into deep problems. After 14 years, God reveals to Sarah that the child will be from her own body! Again, Sarah didn't believe. She laughed. But God challenges her and says that she will have a baby by next year by this time, and it did happen!

God wants to test our faith. That's why He does not tell us everything. Go one step at a time and wait on Him for the next move. Don't assume something with your own understanding, and move forward! It can become detrimental to you and your family.

## God's prophecy to Moses

*Exodus 3:7,8. 7And the LORD said, "I have certainly seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their outcry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. 8So I have come down to rescue them from the [d]power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey....."*

This prophecy is very much like the prophecy for Abraham. God's plan was to deliver Israelites from Egypt and bring them to the Promised Land! Now God tells Moses to take his first step.

*Ex. 3:10,11. 10And now come, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt." 11But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?"*

God's ways are mysterious! Don't try to understand it. Just do it!

Moses felt that he was no good to carry out this mission. He gave many excuses! Who am I? (Just nobody? God looks for someone who has no experience!!). Moses said, I do not know your name. People will not believe me! I am not eloquent! *God said who made your mouth? I'll be with your mouth.* Still Moses refused and said, please send somebody! He was angry. He told Moses that his brother Aaron will be his mouth piece.

Moses went very reluctantly, and God was very angry with Moses! No one had talked back to God like that and lived! Moses felt incompetent, unsuitable for the job. But when God chooses us for His mission, He will equip us! God deliberately does not choose the strong and able, but the weak, and meek, so that they may not lean on their own strength, but on God alone for everything! *God's job qualification? No experience necessary!*

Lofty mission for Moses, but only God knows how to make it happen. Everything will go according to God's time. But our disobedience to God will delay everything! (40 years in the wilderness for Israelites!).

## God's prophecy to David

Saul was jealous of David, and he tried to kill David. David pondered about fleeing the country, but God wanted Him to stay within the country. After a while, David could not take the heat, and he decided to move to Ziklag. Afterwards, all hell broke out in David's life! Amalekites raided his village and took all his wives and children. David almost lost everything. He cried out to the Lord, and the Lord heard him. David redeemed everyone! We may not understand God's will. But it is better to obey at any cost. David learned this lesson the hard way! Let us not misinterpret God's will in our lives! It is very easy to take an exit ramp and go astray!

## God's prophecy concerning the fall of Israel, Judah.

We learned so much about the fall of Israel and Judah through the book of Isaiah. God warned them ahead about the foreign invasion, but the Israelites did not heed to the warning and they paid heavily for their sins. Learn not to misinterpret God's warning.

Sometimes, God has the right to change his prophetic plan due to His compassion and mercy!

eg. (God's prophecy concerning Nineveh)

## God's prophecy concerning Messiah

Israel misinterpreted God's prophecy concerning Messiah consistently. They expected a military leader like David who would free Israel from foreign powers. But it never happened! Many people claimed themselves as Christ and tried to liberate Israel politically, but failed miserably.

When Jesus came, the religious leaders had a tough time believing Him as Messiah for various reasons:

1. The Messiah was supposed to be born in Bethlehem, but the religious leaders thought that Jesus was born and brought up in Nazareth.
2. As I said before, the Israelites expected a political leader who would take Romans head on and liberate them. But Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world!".
3. The religious leaders thought that the real messiah would band around with scholars and religious leaders, and promote his kingship. But Jesus surrounded Himself with a bunch of fishermen and publicans, and tax collectors!
4. They did not expect a suffering Messiah who would die! They failed to take Isaiah 53 seriously.

*Isaiah 53:5. 5But He was [c]pierced for our offenses, He was crushed for our wrongdoings; the punishment for our well-being was laid upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.*

God gave just a glimpse of detail about Messiah, and what He would do. Only those who received the Spirit of God could understand these prophecies concerning Jesus. It was very easy for them to misunderstand these messianic prophecy even today.

## God's will for the Disciples of Christ!

We are all familiar with the calling of the disciples. Jesus did not give a whole lot of detail about His ministry or detail about what they were supposed to do as disciples. He just told them to follow Him! But then He started teaching them who He was, and they had a tough time understanding Him. In the last days, He started talking about His death and resurrection, and it went over their heads. God chose them not because they were great theologians, but because they were babies!

Even Paul was given very little direction at first!

*Acts 9:5,6. 5And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, 6but get up and enter the city, and it will be told to you what you must do."*

## God's promise concerning the Lord's return!

Every generation has been misreading the return of CHRIST! Even during apostles time, they misread the prophesy! They kept saying that Jesus is coming soon! Different ideas were floating around.

The Lord has already come?

The Lord would return in Apostles' time?

The Lord may never come?

The Lord may come in any generation! Jesus clearly told us, "No one knows the hour." God wants us to find us doing His will when He comes. He does not want us to fight with one another!

Focus on doing His will and be ready always to meet Him face to face!

God's prophecy concerning Israel. We again misinterpret prophesy concerning Israel. What is God's will for Israel in New Testament? A separate salvation plan for them? (Romans 9-11)

Salvation path through Jesus Christ to the Jews first, and then to the Gentiles, and they both become part of God's kingdom, kingdom of God which is kingdom of heaven. How? We do not know! If we do not know, we can leave it alone. Don't try to interpret things you do not know.

New Jerusalem from above or earthly old Jerusalem below? We cannot know for sure.

(We studied that in detail in the book of Isaiah).

We make so many misinterpretations of prophecy concerning our modern era.

UN. Is that the instrument of devil or a noble entity? It was through UN Israel got its nation back. But now it is painted as an institution of evil.

European Union 10 horns (nations) or 17 horns (nations)? Crazy interpretations are floating around without any proof from Scripture.

God's prophecy concerning modern leaders and kingdoms! Branded as the anointed ones, the new messiah!

What happened to the current prophecies about modern leaders? Nothing is coming to fulfillment. Don't believe everything you hear. Most likely, it will end up as misinterpretation.

### The QANON CONSPIRACY THEORY

The anti-Semitic cult that called former president as Q and followed him blindly. They set the date December 5, 2020 as the Day of reckoning. Then they changed the date to Dec. 7th. Then it was Jesus 2020. Finally, the day of reckoning did come on January 6, 2021, their March toward capital center and ransacking it.

America. The new Promised Land?  
(Even Billy Graham believed that for a while).

It is so easy to misread God's prophecy and follow the wrong doctrine.

There is total confusion and misunderstanding concerning the following prophecies:

Armageddon, millennium, Satan to be released after 1000 years, Antichrist?

We come across constant misinterpretations of God's Word! When are we going to learn? If anybody starts talking about God's prophecy in an authoritative manner, don't fall for it! Most likely they will be wrong! Because they know not what they are talking about!

We need to understand and believe only one thing, and this is the Word of the Lord!

Jesus is our Lord, and He will return one day suddenly to judge the living and the dead, to punish the wicked, and rapture His people. Are you ready to meet Him? This is what God wants us to be concerned about, and we must be ready for Him.

Stop beating people who believe differently. Stop attacking people who have different political opinion than ours. Don't be engaged in fighting with each other when He comes. Jesus has warned very clearly that some of His servants will be fighting with one another when He comes! Already, preachers are preaching for armed insurrection! Beware! Be a loving, faithful servant! Love is all what God wants from us. Jesus is coming someday, and let us love one another!

## Conclusion:

Don't try to understand the whole prophecy. Go one step at a time!

Be ready. Jesus will come anytime!

Stop fighting with each other. Instead, start loving one another!

Focus on what God wants you to focus on, that is on return of Jesus, and being ready for Him. Don't boggle down with other complicated prophecies. Don't worry about any other prophecy. We will most likely misread them and teach people the ring ways. Remember, we know only in part, and we see things dimly.

*1 Cor. 13:9-12*

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