

You're in Good Hands with God

#3: His Predestined Will: What He has decided for you

(Ephesians 1:11)

Pastor Kurt

A) How Can Bad Things Be God's Will? (Eph 1:11)

B) The Four Biblical Wills of God

Predestined Will of God: Decisions God has already made for us and that will be carried out regardless of what we decide or do.

Prescribed Will of God: Commands God has put in writing for us to obey, but gives everyone the choice not to.

Permissive Will of God: Extrabiblical issues that we choose according to our own desires and preferences.

Prayed for Will of God: Granted requests of God to change what occurs within His Permissive Will, but never in violation of His Predestined or Prescribed Will.

What is not a biblical will of God? A Private Will: Supposedly extrabiblical issues that God has determined and that we must discover.

C) The Predestined Will of God (Isa 14:24)

- Deciding what would be contained in His predestined, prescribed, permitted, and prayed-for wills. (Eph 1:11; Isa 14:24)
- Choosing His elect by grace to be saved for eternity (cf. John 6:37-39; 10:28-29; Acts 13:48; Rom 9:10-23; 11:5-6; Eph 1:3-14; 2:1-10)
- Deciding that Adam and all his descendants would be sinners (Rom 11:32; 5:12; 3:19, 23; Gal 3:22-24)
- Deciding that God the Son would pay the penalty of sin and ransom His elect by shedding His blood on a cross (Acts 4:25-28; Matt 20:28)
- Determining the times and places His elect would live so they would be saved (cf. Acts 17:26)
- Determining a person's personality (Ps 139:13)
- Indwelling us with His Spirit to give us a New Nature (cf. John 14:17, 20; 15:5; Gal 2:20; Eph 4:24; Matt 28:20)
- Conforming us to the image of Christ (cf. Rom 8:29; Phil 1:6)
- Building His Church (cf. Matt 16:18)
- Not allowing us to be tempted or tested beyond what we are able (cf. 1 Cor 10:13)
- Giving us a spiritual gift, ability, and desire to serve Him in a unique way (cf. Acts 26:16; Rom 12:6; 1 Cor 7:7; 12:7,11)
- The Consummation of His plan for humanity and the Church initiated by the second coming of Christ and fulfilled in the New Earth (1 Cor 15:20-28; Rev 21:1-5)