
The Will of God

Since the fall, God has had to watch both His children and the creation live under the rule of Satan. According to spiritual law, He has not been able to directly claim or influence any fallen human being, and He cannot randomly take anybody back to His dominion. Rather, man must first *desire* to come back to God, for He can only reclaim us on the basis of conditions we make to return to Him. Since the fall, He has been forced into silence. For many long years, He has had very limited means with which He could communicate with His children. Little by little, He was able to inject some impulses into the hearts of some people and tell them, "I am your Father—not Satan. I am your God, your creator. Even though at this point you are still attached to Satan, you actually belong to Me!" Gradually, man developed a greater desire to discover spiritual truths, and began delving into religion and philosophy. Consequently, many people yearned to discover the true purpose of life, and to live rather than merely exist.

The process of restoration is a complicated one. Efforts are made by both God and Satan: one tries to advance, the other, to block. God's greatest weapon against Satan is the Messiah. The Messiah is His true son, the one who can represent Him totally. God knew that when the Messiah claims us back to His side, we essentially bid Satan farewell. That decision is part of our responsibility. God also knew that even though Satan's hold on us is so tenacious, the more we learned about the will of God, the greater our desire would become to be pulled back to our true home by the magnetism of His love. Once God gives us the Blessing, Satan can no longer touch us, because we enter a different realm altogether. Yet receiving the Blessing does not mean that we live in the direct dominion of God. We still have to fulfill the responsibility of perfecting our hearts in order to enter that realm. But we are fortunate that the Messiah throws out a lifeline to us. We do the will of God by doing whatever it takes to keep hanging on to the Messiah; for it is the combined power of God and the strength of the Messiah that will pull us toward salvation.

We must become aware of how important it is to do the will of God and to do what He asks of us without compromise. That is the biggest problem—we compromise day in and day out.

If we are filled with the true love of God, we will be driven by it to do the will of God. What *is* the will of God? Jesus put it simply: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind... You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

If there would be a free flow of true love between ourselves and God, and this love would then flow to the hearts and minds of all people, behavior and interpersonal relationships on every level would be influenced. The quality of life, whether related to economics, social life, politics, pure science, or any other field, would have a different texture. All things in the universe are made for a certain purpose. If true love governed all phases of life, then all things would function correctly and every entity would work toward fulfillment of its purpose. No matter what other questions we seek answers for, we should always try to discover the will of God.

To fulfill the will of God it is necessary that we connect, or actually *reconnect*, the whole universe with God. God does not mean for the process of unification to occur just between the Unification movement and God, or the Unification movement and all mankind. For the ultimate benefit of every entity, this bonding is essential between all things in the universe in order to join them with God. The whole cosmos is fashioned in such a way that each being is interdependent upon all others. Every substance in the universe depends upon countless other creations. God did not make one entity too many, and not one less than necessary. He has a purpose for each one; I am sure that in God's mind, there is even a perfectly logical reason for the pesky mosquito! Therefore, we have to treat everything correctly, with proper respect and love. We have to realize that every little flower is needed. Developing such an awareness is also the will of God.

Once you unite with the laws of God, you are no longer yourself, but rather an active component of His divine body. Even though you are a separate entity with a unique character and form, nevertheless, you are dependent upon everybody else and all other beings in the universe. If the "cell" next to you is decaying, you can't help but be affected. The bottom line is the interdependency which God and mankind, and mankind and the creation have upon one another. God longs for us to develop filial piety; after all, we are His children. How much we exhibit our loyalty is a measure of our love for God. Once we understand the will of God, we will be able to ascertain that we are absolutely obligated to live by His law in order to fulfill our purpose of creation.

There will be repercussions if we go against the laws of nature. Disharmony, disunity, and finally, perhaps even disaster could result. The will of God is most important. His law governs the universe, bringing all

entities to the point of maturity, and ultimately perfection. Only mankind deviated from following His will.

If we behave according to God's set of laws, we will be spiritually healthy. Doing so generates potential development of unity, harmony, peace, and freedom. We all have certain qualities which God imparted to us at the time of our conception. The will of God, even for an individual life, is absolutely predestined, although sometimes God might follow any one of several options. We can eventually be endowed with insight and certain desires which are directly in line with the will of God. It then becomes our responsibility to pursue them. But given the plan of God, there are so many projects and activities which He must begin in order to reach people on all levels. His goal is to restore this entire world, and He commissions our help. Depending upon our response, we might either assist or thwart His efforts and desires for our particular contribution.

Our will has to become identical with the will of God. When that happens, we are sure to do the right thing. The will of God exists on many different levels—individual to cosmic. The most basic point of His will is that we fulfill our purpose of creation: to become a perfected human being, a true child of God, and eventually a true parent. God's entire creation is designed in such a way that when the purpose of the whole is accomplished, the individual purpose of each entity will automatically and simultaneously be fulfilled. Man must discover the true purpose of his existence, in other words, why God created him. The creation resulted from God's desire. Will makes the difference, and that is something which originates in the heart, for it is God's love that stimulates His will.

What motivates people to do certain things? Why do some people behave in a selfish and malicious way, and some out of goodwill and generosity? What activates behavior? Why are some people angry and hateful, while others benevolent and kind? To discover the answer, it is important to uncover what base a person created. If we create a base for God, He is able to work through us. If instead we create a base for Satan, Satan is able to work through us. The foundation we lay makes the difference, for through it, we submit our loyalty to accomplish either the will of God or Satan. We must be strong enough to refuse Satan the chance to take control over our heart, and instead make sure our will matches the will of God. If we connect with the love of God and True Parents, we will be motivated by their love and heart to do just that.

We can inspire and encourage God by doing His will. Simply put,

God wills that everyone be happy. And God wills that every person bring joy to the other people in his life. If you give something out, something will be returned to you. Once a person feels joyful, he can start a kind of perpetual motion and the reciprocal action of giving and receiving. God has invested Himself in preparing this world to be restored, and the whole process of restoration focuses on this one point—that eventually joy will be the center of existence. If we become one with God, we will surely feel His suffering heart, but the predominant essence of God is love. When God reveals His love to someone, that person will undoubtedly feel exhilarated. If members of a group feel no joy, but rather everyone is sad and depressed, then something is wrong. God is not present. They have to do something to bring God back into their midst. If the presence of God can be felt, people might shed tears of repentance in sorrow for their mistakes, but at the same time feel jubilant that God is with them. God would like to forget all the reasons for His own tears, all the bad things of the past as well as the present. But He cannot ignore the fact that billions of people are suffering. As long as they are in misery, God suffers as well. And anyone who is connected with God shares that agony with Him. The intense and piercing pain He feels in His heart motivates Him to keep on going. Yet it inspires us to help Him do away with the suffering of mankind, so that eventually we will all experience joy.

The luminescence of God is all around us, but each one of us must make the move to expose ourself to that "sun." Summertime in most of the world brings quite high temperatures, but if we are resolved to stay in an unheated basement when it is warm outside, we will be cold. Is that the will of God? If we do that of our own volition, can we still complain to God that we are cold? There is something inherent within us which is attracted to light and love—physically and spiritually—and spurs us on to fulfill our purpose of creation. To experience the light and warmth of the sun, we have to go outside. We will never be warm if we stay in a dank basement. Likewise, we have to go outside of *ourselves* to experience more of God's love. When our concern for others is greater than the concern we feel for our own situation, we will be warmed by His love. For us to do that is the essence of God's bidding.

The will of God is absolutely predestined. Whether we cooperate with Him or not, God has revealed the main road that leads home to Him. All people are a certain distance from God, and all of us have to find our

way back. Father uses all possible opportunities to fulfill God's purpose. He himself has decided to return to God as quickly as possible. He is keenly aware that man can go this way by his own free will, and he has taught us that it is virtually up to each one of us when we will return to God.

Forty years ago Christians in Korea could have recognized Father as the Messiah. Acceptance of the Messiah at that time would have concluded more quickly this agonizing restoration history for God. Many more things would have been accomplished by now, and Satan would have lost his chance to debase the present generations with his clever maneuvers and wily ways. Communism would have declined rather than spread. The Marriage of the Lamb could have taken place earlier, and the worldwide foundation of blessed families would be much stronger today. But based on their free will, those people rejected that premise. That one decision hastened the rapid decline of this world, allowing the sovereignty of Satan to be that much more potent.

For God's will to be accomplished, so much depends upon man's response, and whether or not he even offers one. I have seen how Father often makes quick decisions, sometimes even sending people to the far corners of the earth. To the rest of us, it seems these moves are years ahead of schedule. Generally, it is not until years later that we find out why he did what he did. Father has to be attuned to God and spirit world, and have knowledge of how the world is turning—politically, economically, socially, and in every other way. Once he has an understanding and grasp of the situation, he does everything possible to speed up the restoration process. He uses any opportunity which may arise. He can see when the time is ripe. He knows the goal. He knows the Principle and what has to be done. When it comes to battling with Satan, he is a great strategist. He is the one who discovered and exposed Satan's crime. He has the correct insight to direct the troops where to move, because he is the only one able to see the whole picture. Father is God's mouthpiece. With the authority of God, he leads us to our showdown battle with Satan. We have to cooperate with him for God's direction to be fulfilled. Our main responsibility is the leg work!

God has called us to become His true children. Of course, in living a life of faith it is possible that we will make mistakes, and we will experience valleys and peaks of spiritual stability, but nevertheless we Unificationists are given the gift of the Blessing, and are destined to become the true children of God. We have mediators through whom we can directly relate to Him. It was a different story in the Christian era, and even God's chosen

people in the time of Moses had a more difficult time to relate to the Almighty One. While we may understand our historic position intellectually, this "good news" also has to reach our hearts. We are children of God, thus we have to view ourselves as different people, different from the people living in secular society who are primarily concerned with "taking care of number one." To follow the will of God, *we* have to be conscious of taking care of the real Number One—God! Satan may try to accuse us for doing that, but we insult God when we continue to abide by Satan's decisions and will for our lives.

See your life introspectively. See yourself as a part of God's family. True Parents are on the earth, and we have the privilege of attending them. What a precious opportunity! Given all these blessings, the question we must ask ourselves is whether or not we live according to the will of God. We may want to escape, and may even *try* escaping, but nevertheless the Principle is our judge and our standard, for it outlines the will of God. *Are* we living according to God's intentions? On occasion any of us may make minor diversions from the path, but eventually we have to reenter the highway and pay the tolls necessary to travel this road.

Once you establish that you want to do the will of God, recognize that voice inside you which cries in longing to return to God. Each of us is prompted by something. The truth in itself is a real motivating factor. We have learned the identity of Father, which compels us to embrace the will of God and then work toward accomplishing it. Each of us has tasted His love and naturally we want more. This has become my own personal goal, and I see this as my salvation. I want to live for Him, even die for Him. That is an inner commitment each of us should strive to make. Consider the ramifications of your relationship to God. Don't feel there is anybody or anything able to separate you from your Heavenly Father.

You may wonder how to go about doing His will. The scenario may or may not be a familiar one to you: God will reveal the answer, "Love Me with all of your heart." You query, "How can I do that?" He smiles, "Oh, it is very simple. My son has told you so much about Me. Study his words more. You probably have not heard enough yet. Study again what He said about Me. Prayer is also important. Talk to Me. All day long if you like. I'll answer you." Several days later you might approach God again and say, "Father, here I am again. I did what You said. I studied and prayed, and I feel I know more about You. I accept You fully; I love You deeply and want to embrace You. I want to live with You, to be united with You for the rest of my life." You feel blissful, full of peace and serenity. But all of a sudden somebody barges into the garden you have created in your mind, stomps

on the blossoms of God's love growing there, and screams, "Oh no you don't! No, no! You can't leave me that easily! You belong to me! You want to leave me for good? Ha! Fat chance. You say you at least want to take a vacation? Well, you better be willing to pay for it. And you better know it's expensive!" Satan demands payment to release you. You turn around to God and say, "My Father in heaven, Satan is giving me trouble. Why? Am I not out of his range yet? Didn't You grant me the Blessing? Why is he still bothering me? Doesn't he see that I am no longer under his dominion?" Then God says, "My child, we have a problem. Yes, I *did* give you the Blessing, but Satan is still very active in pursuing you and wants to win you back. Even the children of the True Parents have a problem. They are exposed to the lures and trappings of this world which Satan *still* governs. He is still a god on earth. You have been his blood relative for a long time and he is upset that you want to go away.

I have to watch the True Children carefully so that they don't get into trouble. And it is the same for you. You have to be careful and make sure that you don't become putty in the hands of Satan. The world is still satanic and filled with evil. I need more children who are committed enough to do their best and fight this evil. What I am saying is that I need you. Please, please keep on going. Do good and expand My Kingdom; tell more people about Me. Let them in on My plight. I know eventually My Kingdom will grow in size. I assure you that if we pull together, eventually Satan will leave and not bother you any longer."

Then you might say, "But what can I do to get away from any accusation in the future? Even though lie has no more dominion over me, how can I make sure that I am not accused by the angelic world or the saints in the spirit world." God might answer you, "It takes indemnity. I know that indemnity is not pleasant, but if you willingly make conditions, you will grow spiritually and that will force him to release you. No one can make you do something you don't want to do. You have the last word about what happens to you. Only you can decide whether you will bathe in hot or cold water. You alone can decide if you will eat or fast. And you also know that you can pray as long as you want.

I can encourage you to use your time on earth wisely, to make sure that you deepen in faith and grow in spirit, but it is up to you whether you follow My wishes." If you look closely, you will be able to detect God's tears as He finishes, "But I want you to know how much I appreciate all the energy and love you invest in your mission. Even though nobody else sees it, I do. I can detect that you love others as My representatives, and that you care deeply for your spouse and children. I can see that you understand My will more all the time, and I want you to know how grateful I am!"

Have you ever heard the voice of God? Have you ever heard Him say any such things? Any thought, any feeling, any move that we make to follow our original mind or to obey those instructions from God, takes a lot of strength. Father has told us that it takes seven times the strength to come to God as it does to stay with Satan. Just. keeping faith is indemnity.

How grateful God is when we do His will and live the Principle according to the standard Father shows. He is pleased when we strive to work as far beyond our capacity as possible. That in itself is plenty of indemnity, but doing it with the right attitude pays even more. To do the will of God is a big job, but if we succeed, we will ultimately move away from Satan, and God will be able to come into our lives. I realize that working for God day in and day out is hard both physically and spiritually. Rest assured that God is just as aware of this fact. Offer the aches and pains you have—that you are cold, that you feel sick—and just go forward to do His work. God promises us His blessings for it. And we will surely be able to receive them if we diligently invest ourselves and accomplish His will.

Why did God call us? After I heard the Principle, I abandoned my lifestyle because I understood then, and I understand even more today, that He wants to work through me and you. He wants all of humanity to know about His heart. What we have to do is relate to God in prayer, do His will, accept His word through the Messiah, and adjust ourselves to the truth so that each of us becomes a clear channel through which God's love can flow. If we are nonchalant about opening ourselves to His will and try to fulfill it, but at the same time are arrogant or selfish, can we really expect to succeed?

The Bible says that many are called but few are chosen. God wanted each of us for a certain mission. But His calling is not an absolute predestination. A great deal also depends upon our answer. He calls us, and we have two choices. We can either respond in the affirmative, or refuse. However, the *will* of God is absolutely predestined. History is unfolding, and nobody can refute that the forces of good and evil are clashing. Whether or not a person is sensitive to it, the will of God is moving forward, albeit with invisible forces of love.

It is true that many are called. Thousands of people have heard the Principle. Many of them come close to accepting Father. Some did in their hearts, but were too weak to commit themselves to living a life of faith, and they walked away, forfeiting a chance which may not come soon again.

None of us are here today by chance. The influence of our ancestors has a great deal to do with it. But ancestry and personal merit are not the only factors upon which God bases His selection. Sometimes God needs a person because of his unique character or abilities, and selects that person despite his background. Abraham is a well-known example. His father was an idol maker, yet God took him from Satan's side, and asked him to fulfill an historically important position. Am I another Abraham? Are you?

God penetrates the human mind in so many ways. He speaks not just through the Bible, the Koran, the Principle, or other holy books, but He inspires numerous people, in the East, in the West, and even behind the Iron and Bamboo Curtains. So many people receive revelations to do the will of God. Today's world is in such chaos. There is so much suffering going on, so many tragedies and so much war. There are so many tensions, and a buildup of so much fear, both in the atmosphere, and in the hearts of humanity. Many kinds of war, even civil war, are ongoing yet because these skirmishes are often tucked away in the middle of a jungle, the world may be ignorant of them. Why do people fight each other? Why do they become bloodthirsty and desire revenge? Why is it so difficult for man to unite and follow the Messiah and God? After a war has finally ended, some people shake their fists toward the heavens and ask, "How can it be that God exists if He lets things like that happen? How can He allow all this bloodshed? There can't be a God. God must be dead."

Why *does* it happen? It is not God's fault. A big part of the problem is that humanity refuses to listen to God. Man had to decide whether he would go with God or with Satan, and unfortunately he chose to join the ranks of Satan. We are God's children, but we did not become involved with God. Instead we walked away from Him. We are all legitimate sons and daughters of God, but to pay the necessary ransom that will enable God to reclaim us, takes great effort. It is a beautiful thing to return to God, and doing so most certainly is in accordance with His will.

The world of today is so different from the world God originally purposed. For thousands of years He labored and worked through so many people to reverse the harm done as a result of the fall. He was motivated by love, but He could never close His heart to the agony His children encountered when they realized they gave up a beautiful opportunity and dream. He cannot shut His eyes to the tremendous suffering of all mankind. More than any of us, He especially feels the pain of disconnection. And He can

also feel how all of His children are isolated from one another. He agonizes at the rise in hatred and resentment among all people; He is hurt that true love was never given a real chance to develop properly. He has been watching this for years, and all the while has been longing to find people who would listen to Him and understand that His will is something He needs our help to accomplish.

The Kingdom of God *will* be erected sooner or later. That is something even Satan knows, but the will of God is quite different from the idea of predestination discussed in Christian circles. Some denominations claim that God predestined everything, while others staunchly disagree. And their fight continues.

Father has made it clear that God depends upon our response to determine whether He can use us for a certain mission or not. When we witness to someone who does not believe that God works within this world and even in his life, there is little God can do. He has to let the person go back to Satan's waiting arms. And Satan is all too happy to grab him. God surely does not punish him. Rather, Satan wants to make sure that the person will not have the spiritual power to respond to the Principle in a positive way. Satan is quick-wined, and works to attack the person spiritually and physically. He may make all kinds of material goods available to a person that could "spiritually" satisfy his cravings for love. These are very tangible, but all God can do is to continue to love that person, something which is very invisible. Satan does everything to deter that person from involving himself in doing the will of God. Satan is keenly aware of God's will, but God is just as perceptive of Satan's desire. And both try to obstruct the other's.

The will of God involves restoring to His sovereignty everything that Satan has claimed. Many people have pondered the will of God. They have contemplated the purpose of creation. The Principle elucidates that God's will is for all entities to live in joy. Yet He purposed that all things in the universe serve humanity, and that scientific discoveries be used for the benefit, not the destruction, of mankind. It is God's intention for love to prevail, and permeate families, societies, and eventually the whole world. This is the determination with which He created this world, and even today He does not deviate from that will. It is absolutely predestined, and it is just a question of time before it is fulfilled. Of course He cannot do it totally by Himself. He needs our help, and that is why He inspires us to do

His will. He proclaims the nature of His will, and then He hopes for our cooperation. We are in our present dilemma because even though a number of people understand different aspects of His will, they neither act in accordance to it, nor cooperate with God.

We rack our brains trying to discern what the will of God is. We want to know if we are doing the right mission, if we are living our married lives according to God's principles, whether we are raising our children properly, and so forth. We want to discover what God desires for each facet of life. How will we know if our assessment is right or wrong?

Answers we receive in prayer should certainly help shed some light, yet we know that God does not always answer our prayers according to our own desire and time schedule. It is important to check our inspirations about the will of God with a superior—either our direct superior, or a person in a position to guide us. God can potentially speak through a person in such a position. We are inspired to live our lives with God as our love, for that is His will, too.