

### ***Why Do We Blame God?***

Romans 12:1-2, "*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - which is your spiritual worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.*"

A chilly wind was blowing, as the gray October sky stretched over the Canadian north woods. The missionary read the weather report. The Aeronautic Aviation Commission advised all aircraft to stay out of the air. However, the missionary had an important meeting 150 miles away to attend. The council, of which he was a member, was determining where missionary workers would be assigned for the next three years. He felt that he must make the trip, despite the weather report. An hour away from his destination he hit a blinding snow storm, the plane crashed, killing the missionary.

The question that was asked by many people was, "*Why did God take this missionary?*" The minister prayed at the funeral, "*God, we don't understand Your will, but we accept what You send.*"

Did God snuff out the life of a fruitful servant in the middle of the harvest? Did God direct, or permit, this missionary's death?

God does have a "***directive***" will. While most people accepts this fact, yet, many events come into our life that is not God's *directive* will, they are only *permitted* by God.

We must accept the fact that God has a "***permissive***" will. We cannot blame God for everything that happens, such as, automobile accidents or failure in school. Too often, we sweep all the dirt that is the result of our own mistakes under the rug by saying "*It must be God's will.*" That phrase, "*It must be God's will,*" has become a catch-all for our own miscalculations.

The phrase, "*The will of God*" has become a dumping ground for our personal failure. We fail in some matter and, so, we announce, "*It is God's will.*" Was the death of this missionary God's will. We have made Romans 8:28 a panacea . . . (*that is, a magic cure for all diseases*) . . . for all human failure.

God's natural laws are eternally set and, when they are broken, will bring punishment. This is true both in the spiritual and in the physical realm.

For instance, if we break any of God's laws, concerning health, we cannot blame God for our broken body. If you fill our stomach with a conglomeration of food and then wake up in the middle of the night with an attack of indigestion, don't say, "*The devil is attacking me again. Why does God allow Satan to afflict me like this?*"

Some folk are like the following poem;

*A little dog who sat on a log  
And tickled his nose with a feather*

*Of course, he sneezed, sniffled and wheezed  
Then blamed it on the weather.*

If we do not see to it that our bodies receive sufficient fresh air, sunshine, cleanliness and exercise, we cannot blame our illness on anyone but ourselves. If we are inclined to overwork, and lack sufficient rest . . . (for mind or body) . . . if would be wrong to blame God when the consequences arrive as a result for our not taking the time for leisure. If we unwisely strain our eyes, we cannot charge God the blame. We are inclined to dress according to style, rather than being sensible about whatever the weather is, who else can we blame, but ourselves? Some who wear shoes that are stylish, rather than comfortable, can't blame God for sore feet. Those who are careless in their food and drink, will reap the consequences, or, in other ways, mistreat their bodies, and should not pray for God to take a way the aftermath of whatever the result might be.

Another mistake for some, is to make God's will a "*rocking chair*" experience. By this I mean the person who is passive in his approach to the happenings of life, one who just yields to circumstances and, then, blame God when *nothing* happens.

Scripture commands us to, "*fight the good fight*," to "*work for the night is coming*," to "*lay hold*," to "*knock, seek and ask*" and to "*strive*." These Scriptures teach that we are not to just sit in our rocking chair and wait for God's perfect will to come our way.

When God commands us to **do something** and we do not fulfill what He commands, we must not blame the results on "*God's will*," but, rather, realize that it is our own unwillingness to carry out God's will.

We must understand God's will and God's law go hand in hand.

Why did God take this missionary, which we told about at the beginning of this study? The answer is simply, that he broke a law of God's nature. Certainly, God *could have* worked a miracle, however, in this case, just as God permits broken health when health laws are broken, God "*permitted*" the laws of nature to take the life of this missionary.

God is not trying to hide His will from us. God's *directive will* is reflected by both the "*laws of nature*," which are in the world, and the "*laws of God*," which are given to us in the Bible. God's will is expressed in His laws.

**The World of creation reflects God's "*Natural laws*,"**  
**The Word of God reflects God's "*Spiritual laws*."**

We cannot go against the laws of nature and not suffer the consequences. If you jump off a high building, the law of nature . . . "*gravity*" . . . will take over. And, we cannot go against the laws of Scripture. God's will is written in the pages of Scripture. The facts of God's Word is far more important than feelings.

However, there is also a "*personal will of God*" for each individual, which, of course, differs from person to person. It is expressed in Romans 8:26-27, which states, "*The Spirit helps us in our weakness*. . . [what is our weakness?] . . . *We do not know what we ought to pray, but*

*the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And He who searches our hearts . . . [that is, Jesus Christ] . . . knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will."*

So, on a personal basis, God's will is revealed by the Holy Spirit's guidance, as we pray in the Holy Spirit and also, by circumstances which God allows to come our way, according to verse 28.

Romans 8:28, "*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.*"