

(D1: Heart, D12: The Home, D3: The Ministry, D4: The Qualifications) Biblical Decision Making and the Fallacy of “Finding” God’s Will

INTRODUCTION:

I. God’s will in Scripture.

1. God’s revealed will.

➔ *God’s commands reveal His will.*

Matthew 7:21.

1 Thessalonians 5:18.

1 Thessalonians 4:3.

➔ *God’s broad intentions for believers reveal His will.*

Romans 12:2.

➔ *God’s plan for human history reveals His will.*

Galatians 1:4.

Ephesians 1:9-10.

Summary:

2. God's unrevealed will.

Proverbs 16:1, 3, 9; 19:21; 20:24.

Romans 15:30-32; 1:9-10.

Acts 18:20-21; 1 Corinthians 4:18-19.

James 4:13-15.

Deuteronomy 29:29.

Conclusion:

II. Man-centered attempts to "find God's will" in decision making.

1. The purely pragmatic approach.

2. The "lucky-dip" approach with Scripture.

3. The prophecy approach.

4. The peaceful approach.

5. The opened or closed door approach.

6. The sign-seeking approach.

Observations and Conclusions:

III. Decision making informed by Scripture.

- 1. In God's strength, be obedient to God's revealed will (commands, broad intentions).**
- 2. Pray for wisdom.**
- 3. Gather information and counsel.**
- 4. Does the Bible speak directly to my decision?**
- 5. How does the Bible speak indirectly to my decision?**
- 6. Humbly follow your desire and decide.**