

Proving the Will of God

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"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" ~ Romans 12:1-2

In this passage Paul lays before us the means whereby we may "*prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*" He presents two simple principles: *present (:1)* and *renew (:2)*.

God's will for our lives does not involve the *mindless* following of the world's course. Instead our lives will be "reasonable" (*i.e.*, well thought out, with purpose). The world's social, cultural, political, economic, and religious courses will constantly pressure us to *conform*. Paul exhorts us not to give sway to this conformity ("*and be not conformed to this world*").

The world's course will ultimately produce nothing but vanity and emptiness. Following its course will make us little more than herded cattle. God's will and life will *transform* ("*be ye transformed*") our deadness and dryness to real vibrant life ("*a living sacrifice*"). The Lord Jesus Himself spoke of His purpose to bring such dynamic life to believers.

destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly"
(John 10:10).

The Lord's way is exceedingly simple. We *present* ourselves to the life of God. We give way to His life *already* in us. Then we continue *renewing* our mind as to the divine priorities, values and life. We live life in the divine viewpoint, yielding to His estimate of what is truly important and valuable in life.

The result is a more abundant life – a transformation that allows us to know and live the “good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

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