

Delighting In God's Will

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C. Elijah Bronner: We become so preoccupied with the mundane things of this life that we forget it's God's will to seek and save that which is lost.

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And now for 7796, Delighting In God's Will: Part 1.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because brother you need the word. We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at brothersoftheword.com or Facebook Live. Thank you for tuning in and streaming us on this beautiful day, always a wonderful delight and joy to have you.

Well, I would like to share just a little humor. A lightning bolt hit in the middle of a church service and when the smoke cleared, Satan himself was standing behind the podium. People panicked and ran out of the building. Satan stood there with a glee. His mood changed when he noticed a woman sitting on the front row just as calm as she could be. He said, "Lady, do you know who I am?" She said, "I sure do." He said, "Aren't you afraid of me?" She said, "No, I'm not." He said, "Why not?" She said, "Why should I be? I've been married to your brother for the last 30 years."

There is a version that says, "I've been married to your sister." But I was trying to be kind to the women. I had some women getting on me when I read the other version. So, I freaked out with that. Well, I want to share a scripture from the Book of Psalms Chapter 40, Psalms Chapter 40 Verse 8. Just one verse.

This scripture was, I don't know, this scripture was starting to come out sometimes in some of my prayers and I just fell in love with it. That was Psalms 40 Verse 8. When you get there say, "Amen." Psalms 40 Verse 8 and it says, "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart." And so, I just found myself from time to time praying the scripture and I will just smile at my prayer sometime and I'll say, "Father, I just delight. I delight to do your will."

So, I just want to use that as a subject, delighting in God's will. Delight means pleasure, means desire, pleasure. And here are some different renderings of their verse and some different translations. One translation says, "I take joy in doing your will my God for your instructions are written on my heart." Another translation says, "I enjoy pleasing you, your law is in my heart." Another translation says, "How I love to do your will my God. I keep your teaching in my heart." And then one final translation says, "I am happy to do your will, oh my God. Your teachings are deep within me."

So, notice the joy and desire to do God's will because of His word being on the inside of us. And so, I believe that the closer relationship we have with God, the more time we spend with Him, the more we get to know Him, the more we get to know His word. I believe it becomes a natural inclination to begin to delight to do His will. You start wanting the will of God. You start wanting to please Him. You start wanting to do things His way and you start wanting to do what He wants. And I believe it grows out of a relationship with God and a relationship with His word. And so, we start desiring and it becomes a pleasure to do His will. It becomes a pleasure to do His will.

Sometimes you can do something but if you don't have a good attitude about doing it, then it's not really a great outcome.

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So, sometimes we can do the right thing but if we don't want to do it, then it's more of a chore or as a drudgery. I remember my mother, she had fostered her son and she told him to sit down. The little boy sat down and he said, "I may be sitting down on the outside but on the inside I'm standing up."

Now, see? He did what she told him to do but he was rebelling on the inside. And so, when we delight to do something, that means we want to do it. It's our desire. It's a pleasure. It's a pleasure to do.

I like to use the term what I will call being happily submitted, being happily submitted to God sort of like a wife submitting to her husband. Some wives may do it because they feel like, "Well, that's the law and that's what I'm supposed to do." But there's a

difference when you're happily submitted to be happily submitted to someone.

And so, that's the way we are with God, way to be happily. Everybody say, "Happily. Happily submitted." Husbands, you all can tip me a little later. Isaiah refers to it as being willing and obedient. If you'd be willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land. So, not only you do what God tells you to do, but you do it happily, you do it joyfully. I can think of accounts in the Bible where people started honoring God so they are giving and they got so excited over the giving. They just brought it and they were singing and they will just rejoice. They brought so much that Moses had to tell them to stop. He said, "Okay, that's enough." They just got overjoyed and they're giving. That was a great attitude and that's why the Bible says that God loves a cheerful giver.

He doesn't just love a giver, He does love a giver but He really loves a cheerful giver because that's someone who is happily doing, that's someone who takes delight in doing God's will. And so, I just love the psalmist(ph). He says, "I delight O Lord to do thy will." I delight. I delight.

And so, when you get to the point of delighting to do God's will, it's a place of growth, it's a place of maturity, and it becomes a statement of love, and respect, and honor, and close relationship, and trust, and it's a statement of submitting your life to Him.

In fact, when David wrote this, it was possible that he was bringing sacrifices to sacrifice to the Lord and it's almost as if he was saying, "Lord, I'm bringing these sacrifices to you but I am giving myself to you. I want to give myself to you. You have me, Father. You have me. I delight to do your will. The sacrifices are good but it's me, I'm submitting. I'm giving myself to you." And that's what that statement says to us. So, it's giving of ourselves to the Lord is when we yield ourselves to Him.

When you reach your point, when know that God is good, you know that He always knows best and He has your best interest and mine, and He has a good plan for you, and He loves dearly. Then, you get to the point where you really want His will for your life and you want to do His will because His will is good, He is good and His way is perfect. God never makes a mistake. He's never wrong, He's never miscalculating. He is never off.

And so, when you know that God is for you and you have a loving heavenly Father, it makes you trust and you want His will for your life. You want to submit your life to Him. I delight to do thy will. I delight to do thy will, O Lord.

Remember talking about the Will of God, will means God's purpose, means His determination when He is determined, that's His will. What He is purposed or what He is determined, it literally means what God wants. That's what He wants. That's His will. What do you want? That's His will. It means that which pleases Him or that which creates joy for God.

When we talk about His will, something that occurs or something that should be done by others and carrying out divine purpose or it's simply how God would have it. That's His will. So, when we're talking about His will, it says determined purpose, it says determined plan. That's what He has in mind. It's what He wants. It's what He desires. That's His will.

So, every day we are to submit our wills to His will, every day we want His will, and we have to sacrifice our will because we want His will for our lives. It takes the help of the Holy Spirit, and so, the Holy Spirit empowers us to accomplish His will and He really gives us the ability.

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I like something that Philippians 2:13 says that, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure. God is working in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." So, God gives you to want to, to want to do His will. Then, He gives you the ability to carry out His will. So, God helps stimulate your desire to work His will, then He gives you the ability to carry out His will. Isn't that good? God is good. He helps us on both ends. He gives us a desire and then He helps us to carry out the operation of it. So, it's God who's working in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure.

And like I said, it's a state of maturity when you grow to the point where you want to do God's will. You want to do what's right. You want to do what's honest. You want to do what's honorable in the side of the Lord. You want to carry out His word. His word is His will. And so if you want to know God's will, it is His words.

So the more you get acquainted with God's word, the more you know His will for your life.

And so, we have the Holy Spirit to help us know. David wrote this Psalm here in -- it's interesting that when David wrote this Psalms 40 Verse 8 that "I delight to do Thy will." It was actually considered a prophetic psalm. It's what scholars refer to as a Messianic psalm. It became prophetic of Christ Jesus. It's amazing how the writers of the Bible would be writing something and they could be writing something that pertain to their life at the moment, but yet the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of Christ would enter them and they begin writing details of Christ's very own life that would come, and it is so fascinating.

David had reached the point where he had learned to trust the plan of God for his life and not his own plan and he had depended on God through so many difficulties and he had learned to obey God and so all of this is working and so he came with sacrifice, he says, "Lord, I'm giving you myself, I delight to do your will." And even though he might have been saying that in his particular instance, it was the Spirit of Christ that entered David and Jesus would say those very words Himself. The Book of Hebrews, Chapter 10 tells us that Jesus himself said those words, "Lord, I delight to do your will." But David had already written that, but it was prophetic. So, it's like Christ entered David and he began talking about Christ thousands of years before Christ would come. Isn't God awesome? Man, that's awesome.

So, it became a prophetic psalm. So, David thought he might have been writing about his own life, but he was actually speaking of Christ Jesus. He was speaking of one to come who would delight to do his will. And he wrote prophetically here in Psalms 40 Verse 8 concerning or signifying the life of Christ, the life Jesus. And so, Jesus, He actually said these words, you can write it down and go look at it later. But Hebrews, Chapter 10 Verses 5 through 7, you can see where Jesus talks about delighting to do God's will. Flip over in your Bible if you will. We'll look at some scriptures that Jesus actually said Himself about doing God's will. Jesus showed delight in doing God's will over His own will. Jesus showed delight in doing God's will over His own will. Flip over to the Gospel of John, the Gospel of John and you can flip over to Chapter 4, John Chapter 4 Verse 34. Notice what it says, "Jesus saith unto them, my meat is to do the will of Him that sent me and to finish his work.

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Now, Jesus said -- Just finish ministering to the woman at the will. He had finished a discourse with her and He just brought the Spirit of God to her and brought eternal life and salvation to her, just changed the woman's life and the disciple showed up, right at the end of his conversation with Him and they said, "Jesus, why don't you come eat?" And that's when Jesus -- he's like, "Guys, I'm not hungry." He said, "I have meat that you all are not aware of." And He was talking about doing God's will. There is something about doing God's will that is so satisfying. It's so fulfilling that it fulfills your life and it satisfies you and it fulfills your life in such a way that you don't have some of the normal desires that you have. You can get so tuned in and so thrilled about doing God's will that it causes you to live life at another level and that's where He was. He was like, "I'm so excited here."

And let me share with you what He was saying, He was saying, that He said, "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me and to finish His work." And so, Jesus understood that God's will for Him was to seek and to save that which was lost. That was God's will for Him to seek and to save that which is lost and His will for Him and His will for us is to go about doing good. And so that's what Jesus was really tapped into His life. He understood that God's will for him was to seek and to save that which is lost and to go about doing good. That was the will of God for His life and He understood then. He was tuned in and that's the same will of God for our lives. We are to be seeking and saving those who are lost. We'd always have that on the front of our mind sharing Christ with someone, sharing eternal life with someone, that's what God is preoccupied with.

It's the will of God that no one should perish. That's God's chief will. If I had to think of one will, that's His chief will. God is not willing that anyone should perish. That's His chief will that no one would perish, but everyone would have an opportunity to believe Christ Jesus and have eternal life.

Let me read this one to you. This is also in the Book of John. "Jesus reveals a lot about the will of God. John Chapter 6 Verse 38 through 40. He says, "For I came down from heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of Him that sent me. And this was the

Father's will which has sent me that of all which He have given me, I should lose nothing but should raise it up again against the last day and this is the will of Him that sent me that every one which seeth the Son and believeth on Him may have everlasting life. See, that's what God is preoccupied with. We sometimes forget that God's chief will is that no one would perish, that everyone would believe on Christ Jesus and have eternal life, that's God's Will. We sometimes forget about that.

We become so preoccupied with the mundane things of this life that we forget it's God's will to seek and save that which is lost. When is the last time you had it on your agenda to share Christ with someone or to pray with someone? When is the last time it's been in your daily agenda to find someone who may not know Christ? When is the last time you prayed before you left home and you said, "Father, let me cross somebody's path who don't know you that I can introduce him to you." Man, that's God's chief will, that's His chief will, that's His chief will for our lives, eternal life, eternal life.

I brought a video, Avy if you have that video, if you're able to roll. It's a little video about eternal life. I had never thought of it quite like this.

Male:

So, man why am I to look forward to. I'm going to bring an illustration that this is like the first illustration I did. It was 20 years ago, but I can't think of a better way to explain it. I actually didn't use a rope back then. I used a -- remember computer paper when it was all stuck together and had the wholes on the side that you have to peel off, remember that? I remember getting a roll, some of you guys have no idea what I'm talking about which is crazy to me. But -- because that was the best. And it never worked right because the rolling things. But I had -- I remember being a youth pastor and I put that computer paper all the way around the room and -- but I'm going to use a rope now because I can't find that computer paper.

Imagine this rope. Okay, pretend this rope just goes on forever, okay? Just imagination, pretend it goes around the world a few times, it doesn't, it ends at the rock. But let's just imagine this thing goes on forever. Now, imagine that this rope is a timeline of your existence, you just exist forever. You see this red part, this would represent your time on earth. You've got a few short years here on earth and then you've got all of eternity somewhere

else. This is your existence. And what blows me away is some of you, all you think about is this red part. It's all you think about. You're consumed with this. You go, "Oh, man I can't wait to hear. I'm going to work hard, I'm going to save, save, save so I can really enjoy this part right here."

You're consumed with that and you think, "Oh man, am I going to travel, am I going to eat well, am I going to do this during this part?" I'm like, "Are you kidding me? What about this? What about this? What about all these stuff?" It's just crazy to me because the Bible teaches that what I do during this little red part determines how I'm going to exist for millions and millions and millions of years forever.

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And so why would I spend this little red part trying to make myself as comfortable as possible, enjoying myself as much as I can. Paul says, "Look, I'm going to live my life for this mission, I'm going to spend my life, invest my life for this moment when I cross that finish line."

So I'm not going to forget about all these stuff I could enjoy, I'm not going to look around, I'm going to be like a runner just looking at that moment when I face God because when I face Him then I don't get this chance over again. We got one chance at this life on earth and it can end at any second for any of us. We got one chance at this and then comes eternity and I'm not going to be fooled, I'm not going to spend my life down.

You see, people look at some of my decisions and go, "Oh, you're so stupid because that's going to really affect this." I go, "No, you're stupid because it's going to affect all of this." Man, I am serious. I look at the way people live and I go, "Wow, that is so crazy, you are so crazy, you're going to do that right now, just enjoy right now, not even knowing if you have tomorrow and you think that's smart and then I'm dumb?" It doesn't make any sense. Paul goes, "I'm not going to look around at all these stuff and it's tempting, it's tempting to all of us."

That's what I'm saying, "Down here it's crazy because everyone lives that way." Everyone lives for the red part, no one's thinking about the millions of years afterwards, it's just a crazy deception that we can't get out of our minds and Paul goes, "I'm not doing

that.” He goes, “I keep my eyes on that. I keep my eyes on that finish line and I'm going to forget what's behind me. I'm not looking around, I'm just going to -- I'm straining because I'm straining forward, I'm like stretching forward for that mark, I'm going to pass this thing, I'm going to live this out and I'm going to face Him, I'm going to come before the judge and He's going to hand me that trophy.” He goes, “I'm going to get in, I haven't got in there yet.” He goes, “But you better believe I'm using every muscle, exerting every bit about me because I'm going to pass that line well.”

C. Elijah Bronner: Praise God. I had never quite looked at it that clearly myself to see how eternity, it's a preeminent thing that's on God's mind and He's not willing that anyone should perish. No one should be lost. It's the will of God. It's the will of God that everyone would be saved. That's God's will. That's God's will and so often we forget that and we forget our assignment everyday is to seek and to say that which is lost. That's the Fathers will. That's the Fathers will. That's the Fathers will. Praise God. Well I'm going to stop right here and we'll do part two and try finish up but I just wanted to just introduce delighting in God's will. Delighting in God's will. Everything that we do in this life strikes a chord that will verberate throughout all eternity. Everything we do in this life has eternal consequences, has eternal effect. Everything we do in this life has eternal effect and so what a wonderful privilege and opportunity it is to delight to do God's will. Praise God.

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