

The will of God (part 1)

I. Why do we and the universe exist?

- **Rev 4:11** You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

II. God has a will and this will makes him happy.

- **Eph 1:5** Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
 - “Good pleasure”: in greek “eudokia,” From a presumed compound of eu and the base of dokeo; satisfaction, i.e. (subjectively) delight, or (objectively) kindness, wish, purpose—desire (Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance)
- **Eph 1:9** Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
- The Lord has a detailed plan to work out His will.
 - **Eph 1:11** In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Question: What makes God happy?

III. Christ was sent to do the will of God.

- **John 6:38** not to do my own will but the will of Him
- To do the will of God was His food
 - **John 4:34** my food is to do the will of Him who sent him
- **Matthew 6:9** You then pray in this way: Our Father who is in the heavens, Your name be sanctified;
 - **Matthew 6:10** Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.
- Christ was obedient to do the will of God even unto death
 - **Matthew 26:39** And going forward a little, He fell on His face and prayed, saying, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.
 - **Matthew 26:42** Again, going away a second time, He prayed, saying, My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done.
 - **John 18:11** Jesus therefore said to Peter, Put the sword into its sheath. The cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?

- **Phil 2:5** Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus,
- **Phil 2:6** Who, existing in the form of God, did not consider being equal with God a treasure to be grasped,
- **Phil 2:7** But emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming in the likeness of men;
- **Phil 2:8** And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and that the death of a cross.

IV. The Church, the mystery hidden within God's heart.

- **Heb 12:2** Looking away unto Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down on the right hand of the throne of God.
- **Eph 5:25** Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her
- **Eph 5:23** For a husband is head of the wife as also Christ is Head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the Body.
- **Eph 5:28** In the same way the husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his own wife loves himself.
- **Eph 5:29** For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ also the church,
- **Eph 5:30** Because we are members of His Body.
- **Eph 5:31** For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall be one flesh.
- **Eph 5:32** This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church.
- **Eph 3:9** And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,
- **Eph 3:10** In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church,
- **Eph 3:11** According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord

Question: What was "the joy set before Him"?

Question: What makes God happy?