Eph. 5:15-17 ***How to Know the Will of God!*** Harlan D. Betz

**1A. Introduction:**

Instead of using foolish methods to determine God’s will,

we must walk in wisdom. (Eph. 5:15).

**2A. Exposition:**

The wise man if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in his use of opportunities (16)

The wise man is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord's will (17)

The wise man if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the Holy Spirit (18)

**How to Determine the Will of God?**

**#1. You must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ God's will.**

Luke 6:46; John 7:17; Romans 12:1-2. You must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**#2. You must be obedient to God's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

Psalm 119:105; Jas 1:22-24; Psalm 40:8; Heb 5:13-14; 2 Tim 3;16-17.

Nothing is the will of God that is contrary to the Word of God!

The precepts are written out for us in black and white.

Some of the precepts are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ commands … always wrong to do.

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Some of the precepts are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ legislated by an authority.

There are principles to guide us when precepts don't spell out God's will.

1. What effect will it have on me? He 12:1-2; 1 Co 6:12; Pro 4;23.
2. What effect will it have on others? 1 Co 8:31; 1 Co 9:14-21; Ro 14:1
3. What effect will it have on God? 1 Pe 2:12; 1 Co 10:3.

**#3. You must be sensitive to God's Spirit.**

 The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (John 14:17). Listen to Word!

 He is the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 1:4). Confess your sin.

 He is the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 10:29). Tap into His power.

**#4. You must be responsive to godly counsel.**

 Proverbs 11:14; Proverbs 12:15 ; Proverbs 21:30. Go to those who have been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the truths of God's Word, and listen carefully to their counsel.

**#5. You must be sensitive to meaningful circumstances.**

God can open and close doors (2 Cor 2:12; Col 4:3; Rev 3:7-8). An open door doesn’t necessarily mean its right (Gen 3:6). A closed door doesn’t necessarily mean its wrong (Acts 4:18). Circumstances must be interpreted in the light of God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**#6. You must be willing to wait on God.**

 Isaiah 40:31. Psalm 40:1. God's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ may not be the same as ours.

 Don't run ahead of God. You must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on Him!

**#7. You should experience God's peace**

Prov 3:17; Isa 26:3; Col 3:15. Obedience leads to clear conscience and peaceful hearts. There should be a settled assurance in your \_\_\_\_\_\_ and your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that you are doing what God wants you to do!

**3A. Conclusion:**

Finding God's will is not like unraveling some mysterious riddle.

The Bible provides an objective standard! You can know His will!