

Romans 9 • God's Will Of Decree And God's Will Of Command

Everything God has created exists for his glory.

The ultimate purpose of creating and guiding and sustaining this world is the praise of the glory [of the grace] of God. The grace of God is most clearly seen in the crucifixion of his Son for undeserving sinners.

If our eternal happiness is rooted and dependent on our enjoyment and resulting praise of the glory of God then the most loving, most right thing (righteous thing) God can be about is the defense of His name, His value, His worth.

Romans 9:6 But it is **not as though the word of God has failed**. For **not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel**,

Romans 9:7 and **not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring**, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”

Romans 9:8 This means that it is **not the children of the flesh** who are the **children of God**, but the **children of the promise** are counted as offspring.

Romans 9:9 For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.”

Romans 9:10 And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac,

Romans 9:11 though **they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election** might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—

Romans 9:12 she was told, “The older will serve the younger.”

Romans 9:13 As it is written, “**Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.**”

Romans 9:14 What shall we say then? **Is there injustice on God's part?** By **no** means!

Romans 9:15 For he says to Moses, **“I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”**

Romans 9:16 So then **it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.**

Romans 9:17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, **“For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”**

Romans 9:18 So then **he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.**

Romans 9:19 You will say to me then, **“Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?”**

Romans 9:20 **But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?”**

Romans 9:21 **Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?**

Romans 9:22 What if God, **desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power**, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,

Romans 9:23 **in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—**

1Thessalonians 5:9 For **God has not destined us for wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 1:4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love

Ephesians 1:5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Ephesians 1:6 **to the praise of his glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Question: Why doesn't God save all?

All have sinned.

All sin has to be punished to maintain God's justice and righteousness.

The cross maintains God's justice and righteousness.

Why doesn't the work of Christ apply to all?

Since God does not save all, is His purpose in not saving all reasonable and moral?

Question: Is making fully known to the vessels of mercy the riches of His glory a sufficient reason, a righteous reason, to allow for the eternal existence of vessels of wrath?

Isaiah 43:7 everyone **who is called** by my name, **whom I created for my glory**, whom I formed and made."

The ultimate purpose of the universe is that vessels of mercy would see the full glory of God, which includes wrath, power and (undeserved) mercy.

1Timothy 2:3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our **Savior**,

1Timothy 2:4 **who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

Howard Marshall on 1 Timothy 2:4:

"To avoid all misconceptions it should be made clear at the outset that the fact that God wishes or wills that all people should be saved does not necessarily imply that all will respond to the gospel and be saved. ***We must certainly distinguish between what God would like to see happen and what he actually does will to happen, and both of these things can be spoken of as God's will.*** The question at issue is not whether all will be saved but whether God has made provision in Christ for the salvation of all, provided that they believe, and without limiting the potential scope of the death of Christ merely to those whom God knows will believe."

Matthew 6:9 Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Matthew 6:10 Your kingdom come, **your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven**

2Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is **patient toward you, not wishing** (to be willing) **that any should perish**, but **that all should reach repentance**.

Ezekiel 18:23 Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, and not rather that **he should turn from his way and live?**

Ezekiel 18:32 **For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone**, declares the Lord God; **so turn, and live.**”

Ezekiel 33:11 Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, **I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die**, O house of Israel?

Desire to do something with the ability to perform it.

Desire to do something without the ability to perform it.

Competing desires, both of which you possess the ability to perform.

Krispy Kreme donut...

If competing desires, what determines the one performed? What guides the decision?

Acts 2:23 this Jesus, **delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God**, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Luke 23:11 And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate.

Luke 23:24 So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted.

Luke 23:21 but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!”

Luke 23:36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine

Acts 4:27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, **whom you anointed**, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,

Acts 4:28 **to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.**

Isaiah 53:4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

Isaiah 53:10 **Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him;** he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

Matthew 23:37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often **would (to want, to will)** I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not **willing! (to want, to will)**

John 3:19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people **loved the darkness** rather than the light because their works were evil.

Genesis 20:6 Then God said to him in the dream, “Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and **it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her.**

Matthew 26:39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I **will (to want, to will)**, but as you will **(to want, to will).**”

Romans 7:15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I **want (to want, to will)**, but I do the very thing I hate.

Romans 7:18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the **desire (to want, to will)** to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

Romans 9:16 So then it depends not on human **will (to want, to will)** or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

“what restrains God's will to save all people is his supreme commitment to uphold and display the full range of his glory through the sovereign demonstration of his wrath and mercy for the enjoyment of his elect and believing people from every tribe and tongue and nation.”

John Piper

Romans 9:23 in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—

Ephesians 1:5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Ephesians 1:6 **to the praise of his glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

“Surely I spoke of things I did not understand; I talked of things too wonderful for me to know. Job 42:3

It's easy to thank God when he does what we want. But God doesn't always do what we want. Ask Job.

His empire collapsed, his children were killed, and what was a healthy body became a rage of boils. From whence came this torrent? From whence will come any help?

Job goes straight to God and pleads his case. His head hurts. His body hurts. His heart hurts.

And God answers. Not with answers but with questions. An ocean of questions...

After several dozen questions ... Job has gotten the point. What is it?

The point is this: God owes no one anything. No reasons. No explanations. Nothing. If he gave them, we couldn't understand them.

God is God. He knows what he is doing. **When you can't trace his hand, trust his heart.”**

Max Lucado