

## e-concepts

---

### A Weekly Publication of Relational Concepts Inc.

## Finding God's Will—The Way of Wisdom

By Dr. David DeWitt

Possibly the biggest problem with seeking the illusive individual will of God through circumstances, experiences, and feelings is that it distracts from focusing on the wisdom of God's directive will revealed by studying the Scriptures (2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17). Since God has revealed His sovereign plan (realized through what actually happens) and His directive will (stated in the Bible), then we can assume these are sufficient for decision-making. In other words, the teaching of the Bible dictates our moral actions, and wisdom derived from the Bible directs our non-moral decisions.

### Here Are Some Suggestions for Decision-Making Based on Wisdom

- (1) Look back at your past decisions. What have been the results of those decisions? Maturity comes from training yourself to make good decisions (Hebrews 5:14).
- (2) Look for the consistent patterns of life. Wisdom comes from knowing the regular patterns of events (Proverbs 6:6-11; 30:24-28). So following unusual circumstances (like unexpected phone calls, gifts, or coincidences) runs contrary to wisdom.
- (3) Evaluate life's patterns from God's point of view. There is worldly wisdom and godly wisdom (1 Corinthians 2:13, 14). Godly wisdom comes from practicing the attitudes revealed in the Bible (like in Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Sermon on the Mount [Matthew 5-7], the Fruit of the Spirit [Galatians 5], the characteristics of love [1 Corinthians 13], etc.).
- (4) Make the most of every opportunity for the Kingdom of God (Ephesians 5:15-16; Colossians 4:5).
- (5) Study the situation. Use the circumstances as a context to guide your decision-making, not as something pointing out God's individual will. That includes counting the cost (Luke 14:28), being well-informed (Hosea 4:6), and using wise counsel (Exodus 18:19; Proverbs 19:20). Examine the situation like Nehemiah examined the walls of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2:11-16; see also Joshua 2).
- (6) Study the Bible for God's attitudes (Micah 6:8). The actions of God supply a basis for decision-making even in non-moral areas (Psalm 119:97-105).
- (7) Look for what is closest to the heart of God, not what you can get by with or away with. Settle for second-best financially and organizationally but not morally (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

