

1/1/23

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FB 6

Sermon – New Year – New Goal (Thy Will Be Done – 2023 Focus)

Scripture – Mathew 6:1-21, Ecc 1

Main Message – The NUMBER one problem with the world is that people want Their Will To Be Done! Nothing is new under the sun.

I like to give myself, and all of you an opportunity for the new year to grow closer to God. Over past years as a resolution, I have looked into God's word and made it a focus for the year, to various degrees of success. To be clear, they are as much for me as they are for you. Occasionally I see that its borne fruit. Past years I have emphasized Bible Study. I have emphasized Prayer, I have emphasized Walking with the Holy Spirit. Last year, I simply said pick something, anything and work on it. This year is no different. I have picked another and perhaps one of the most challenging of all topics to put into focus. I'm going to emphasize it routinely to help us to practice this incredible challenge both in my mind and in yours. These topics come from scripture and I hope you can see that its not my idea on what is important, but God's direction for the lives of those who love him. Now that I've made it both interesting and perhaps scary, let me read a bit of scripture to you. The answer to this is in this piece of scripture.

Read Mathew 6

What stands out? It depends on your focus. Jesus is teaching his disciples. You are his disciples. When reading this scripture, he is therefore teaching us all just as if He was here in person. Now lets look at this section of scripture with the focus on the concept of, "THY WILL BE DONE." That is this year's focus. It maybe the most difficult of challenges. This problem goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden where even the purest intent was corrupted by the sin of rebellion against God's will. It was not His will that we would sin by disobeying God. It was not His will that we should all die. The entire story of the Bible is a constant battle between God's will be done and that of all humanity. You think your patience is tested sometimes, imagine the Holy Omnipotent Creator of the UNIVERSE's patience in dealing with us. I don't have God's patience and sometimes I vent my frustration at how often people get in the way of true progress in serving the Lord because of their own ideas on how things should be done. I am guessing you're thinking, wait, I've been given a brain and free will and aren't I supposed to use it? Well this gets tricky. More often folks might be choosing their own desires over what works best for the Kingdom. They aren't walking in the Holy Spirit; they are walking in their own. We are no better than Adam and Eve so we shouldn't throw stones at them.

The wisest of men, Solomon, said it best in the first chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes.

Read Ecc 1

My goal is certainly not to offend, but to help you give thought to the God's will be done before your own. At the same time, do we grow if we are not offended? Over the next weeks, and year, I am going to pray that the messages I give help us to break this spiritual cycle of stagnation that has continued to do battle with God's perfect will. I am on this journey with you. To be clear, everyone in here needs to actually believe, support, and substantiate what Jesus said when he taught his disciples to pray. THY WILL BE DONE. You will come a long way when you realize your will counts for nothing.