

“GOD’S WILL FOR YOU”

Presented by
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We come in this morning after having celebrated “Thanksgiving.” What a great holiday! Food and family, all the while thanking God for His provisions. We have so much to be thankful for even in the midst of uncertain times. True?

We must realize that Abraham Lincoln decreed Thanksgiving a national holiday October 3, 1863 in the midst of the Civil War. Over 600,000 died in that war. It was a horrible time in United States history with the war not ending until April of 1865. When the president decreed Thanksgiving, there would have been many who would not have seen much reason to give thanks. Their present circumstances would have led them to wrong conclusions with regards to God’s will for their life and their future.

What about you this morning? What about you as an individual? Are you thankful? We may come in this morning not being able to adequately answer that question, or we may not want to let others know that the answer is actually ... no.

My prayer for you this morning, no matter what state you find yourself in, is that you will leave looking to the future and be encouraged. You see our status in our Savior today, as well as our future, holds the key to being thankful in any circumstance. Let’s look into God’s perfect Word and “encourage one another, building each other up.”

THE DIVINE TAPESTRY SERIES

- All throughout Scripture God declares the **end** from the beginning and **commands** His people to respond (Isaiah 46:10-11).
- We have seen that **Israel**, though told the **future**, would not yield to God.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:14-18

- In light of what is coming for **believers** in Christ, the **Spirit** leads us to godly behaviors that are God's will for us and behaviors that will impact the world around us.

➤ ONLY SEEK GOOD FOR **ALL** PEOPLE

- ✓ Though we have evil against us, we are to **always** respond with good to **everyone**.

- ✓ This is a **Spirit**-led response that leads to God's glory.

➤ REJOICE **ALWAYS**

✓ There is no **circumstance** the Lord is not in the midst of with us. He **cares** for us (Romans 8:31-32).

✓ Our trials lead us to **maturity**; and, eventually, to **meeting** our Savior in the air!

✓ The Spirit **leads** in this transformed response.

➤ PRAY **NEVER CEASING**

✓ In light of our **Savior** coming soon and our life circumstances today, be in constant **contact** daily and hourly.

✓ We must realize the **Spirit** within us longs for communication with the Father. **Yield** to Him.

➤ IN **EVERYTHING** GIVE THANKS

- ✓ What's coming? Face to face with your Savior, glorifying Him for eternity; **heaven** and not hell; **life** and not death; a new **resurrected** glorified body for eternity ... and so much more!

- ✓ These present **sufferings** are not to be **compared** with the glory coming (Romans 8:18).

- ✓ Though we **groan**, the Spirit leads us to **thankfulness** (Romans 8:23-25).

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Do I want to **be good** to everyone in everything, **rejoicing** always, **praying** without ceasing and being **thankful** no matter what?

- Will I **submit** daily to what God's Word says about the future and let Him **transform** my mind and **behavior** to bring Him glory and impact a lost world?