**Is Jesus Leading Your Life**

**By Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Romans 8:12-17**

**Sunday Morning**

**September 8, 2019**

**Romans 8:12-17**

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors--not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

**Do you ask the Lord to show you His will, or do you decide each day how you want to live and what you will do?**

Saints, the reality is that seldom do people give God much thought when it comes to their daily lives. This is understandable for those who don’t know Him,

but for those of us who have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, seeking God’s direction and provision for each day should be a priority in our thoughts, prayers, and decisions.

Saints, although we may be tempted to relegate God’s will only to spiritual matters,

if Jesus Christ is our Savior and Lord, there is no part of our lives about which He is not concerned and over which He does not have the right to rule.

**The will of God is the principle by which we should live every single day**

**1. Allow God to Sanctify You**

**1 Peter 3:15-17**

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. 17 For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

**2. Allow God to Transform You**

**Romans 12:1-2**

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

**3. Allow God to Purify Our Hearts towards God and Man**

**Psalm 51:10-13**

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.

**4. Allow God to Teach us His Ways**

**Psalm 143:10**

“Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.”

**Psalm 25:12**

“Who is the man that fears the LORD? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.”

**John 6:45**

“It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.”

**1 Thessalonians 4:9**

“But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another…”

**Jesus Christ our Savior is our example to follow**

Saints, even the Son of God lived in complete dependence and submission to His Father. When the prospect of the cross was imminent, He did not face it independently.

**Luke 22:39-42**

39 Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. 40 When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

41 And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, 42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

Saints, in His time of distress, Jesus asked the Father if there was any other means to accomplish the redemption of mankind:

And there wasn’t:

but His main concern was that He follow God’s will, not His own. And that’s exactly how we should think about every situation we face.

**The will of God is that which He approves and determines to bring about**

Saints, it concerns His choices regarding what to do and what not to do. Since He is omniscient, we can trust that He knows the best path for us. God created us to find our satisfaction and fulfillment in Him alone.

**1 John 3:20**

“For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.”

Saints, therefore, to ignore His will and live as if He has no say in our lives is foolish.

All our attempts to govern our own lives cannot bring us the lasting joy and peace we desire because there is no eternal satisfaction apart from submission to the Lord

**Living in God’s will is our Protection**

**2 Peter 3:17-18**

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

Saints, if we don’t look to God for daily direction, we are sure to stumble and fall. We can’t know what the future holds, but the Lord does. He alone has complete understanding and wisdom to direct our path, not only in the crucial decisions, but in our daily concerns. Considering all this, our response should be to make Him our priority each day.

**What is God’s will?**

Saints, first and foremost, He desires that we trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and surrender fully to Him. The Lord knows every detail of our lives and has given each of us different capabilities and skills that enable us to accomplish whatever He has planned for us.

**Hebrews 13:20-22**

20 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Ephesians 5:15-21**

15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Saints, we must avoid the danger of comparing ourselves with others and longing for what He has entrusted to another person. In His wisdom, God has provided everything we need to live as He desires and has promised to guide us into His will if we are yielded to Him.

**We need the Lord for every aspect of our Lives**

Saints, w we should pray and read His Word every day to discover how He would have us live and to plead for His guidance. We need His wisdom in our marriages, with our children, on the job, and with problems that arise.

No part of our lives is to be lived independently of our wise and loving Creator.

**Jesus is the Bread of Life**

**John 6:35**

"Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty'"

**Jesus offers us Living Water**

**John 4:10**

“If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water”

**Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life**

**John 14:6**

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”

**Jesus is our Savior and Lord**

**Philippians 2:9-11**

9 “For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth, and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father”

**Jesus is our Rock**

**1 Corinthians 10:4**

“For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ”

**Jesus is our Redeemer**

**Job 19:25**

“And as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last will take His stand on the earth”

**Jesus is the Light of the world**

**John 18:12**

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life”

**Jesus is our Peace**

**Ephesians 2:14**

“For he himself is our peace…”

**Jesus is the Beginning and the End**

**Revelation 22:13**

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End”

**Jesus is our Deliverer**

**1 Thessalonians 1:10**“And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus delivers us from the wrath to come”

**Jesus is the Good Shepherd**

**John 10:11**

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep”

**In Closing:**

**Those who don’t know Christ as Savior are living without God**

Saints, this is why some people’s lives are such a mess. They try to fill the divine void with substitutes, but the emptiness remains because there is only one person who can satisfy the deep longings of the human heart, and that is Jesus.

God loved mankind so much that He sent His beloved Son to die for them so that those who believe in Jesus Christ could be forgiven and reconciled to Him. Yet so many people in the world will never turn to the Lord because they don’t want anyone, including God, telling them how to live.

As a result, they miss out on the best possible life because genuine peace, joy, and fulfillment are only found in a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Life is serious business because after death, there will be judgment (Heb. 9:27).

**Hebrews 9:27**

“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment”

Saints, as the Creator, God has a right to be the center of our lives. The reason our society is in chaos is because people think they don’t need God nor do they want to obey Him. But until they confess their sin, receive Christ as Savior, and surrender fully to Him, they will never know His salvation.

But to those of us who turn to Christ in repentance, faith, and submission, God gives guidance for every step of life. He is able to redeem our past and give us an entirely new heart and perspective on life—one in which He is the center and priority. Although His plans for our lives are not always easy, they are always best.

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace." '**