**WILL OF GOD NOTES**

There are **two different Greek** words in the New Testament for the word ***will***:

***boulē*** - to desire to have or experience something, with the implication of some reasoned planning or will to accomplish the goal - 'to desire, to want, to will.'; to think, with the purpose of planning or deciding on a course of action - 'to purpose, to plan, to intend.'

**2 Peter 3:1,8-9**

**1** This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, **beloved**. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder,

SKIP TO **VERSE 8**

**8** But do not overlook this one fact, **beloved**, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

**9** The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward **you**, not **wishing** that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

***thēlema*** – 1. desire; that which is desired or wished for - 'wish, desire.';

2. that which is purposed, intended, or willed - 'will, intent, purpose, plan.' ***See example below!!!***

**1 Timothy 2:1-4**

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,

2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,

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

**Rev 5:9**

9 And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll

and to open its seals,

for you were slain, and by your blood

you ransomed people for God

from **every** tribe and language and people and nation,

**Ephesians 1:5**

5 he predestined already decided us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his **will**,

As you can see, both of these words are capable of **several nuances**.

They encompass such ideas as the **counsel of God**, the **plan of God**, the **decrees or the commands of God**, the **disposition or attitude of God**, as well as **other nuances**.

**Further distinctions** in **historical theology** add to the **labyrinth** or **maze** of meanings attached to the simple formula “**the will of God.**”

Because of this, distinctions are necessary—sometimes fine distinctions, even technical distinctions—with respect to will of God.

**Theologians have identified** **AT LEAST** **4** **different wills**.

The **SOVEREIGN** will of God, the **PERCEPTIVE** will of God, the **DISPOSITIONAL** will of God and the **PERMISSIVE** will of God – just to name a few!!!!!

THE SOVEREIGN WILL OF GOD

Also known as His DECRETIVE decree, His commands, His laws, His rule, His orders, etc. will or HIDDEN will **hidden from us** until after it comes to pass.

SOVEREIGN means absolute ruler.

One who reigns; the sole controller - possessing unilateral, one-sided, independent, autonomous authority.

When we say God is sovereign, we are saying that He is subject to none, influenced by no one.

He is the independent, self-governing, self-determining ruler that has ALL authority and ALL power in His hands.

IN A NUTSHELL, THE SOUTHERN WILL OF GOD IS GOD PURPOSEFULLY TAKING ALL ACTIONS, ALL EVENTS AND ALL CONTINGENCIES [POSSIBILITIES, LIKELIHOOD - SEEN AND UNFORESEEN], AND WORKING THEM TOGETHER TO A PRE-DETERMINED END – WHICH IS FOR HIS GLORY!.