When His Will Is Not Mine

Rick Liggin · Matthew 26:36–44

1 Jesus Always Intended to Do His Father's Will

John 5:30; John 14:30–31

- There is no doubt that it was always the intention of Jesus to do the will of his father.
- He didn't come to seek his own will, he came to seek the will of the one who sent him, the will of his father.
- He came down out of heaven not to do his own will, but the will of his father who sent him.
- But so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded me.

2 In Gethsemane, His Will Was Not His Father's

Matthew 26:37–39

- Just because he always wanted to do his father's will doesn't mean necessarily that his will was always consistent with his father's will.
- When Jesus actually comes face to face with the reality of the cross, I want to suggest to you that its horror exceeded even his own expectations.
- Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will. Not what I want, but as you will.
- He really wanted, if there was any possible way, he wanted a way out. He really didn't want to go to the cross. In this moment, his will was not his father's.
- Would he submit his will to the will of the Father? Would he resist or would he yield?

3 In Yielding, Jesus Learned Obedience

Hebrews 5:7–9

- He was still willing to surrender his will to the will of his father.
- Although he was a son, he learned obedience from the things which he suffered. And having been made perfect, he became to all those who obey him the author or the source of eternal salvation.
- The word that doesn't mean flawless, but a word that means complete. He was completed by doing his Father's will.
- I'm saying that his obedience had not yet reached its completed end.

4 The Real Test: When His Will Is Not Our Will

- The real test of our obedience to the Father does not come when it's easy, or when we agree with the Father, or when His will is our will.

- The real test comes when his will is not our will, when what he wants and expects of me is not what I want to do. And yet I do it anyway.
- Obedience is learned when we don't want to do what God wants us to do, but we do it anyway.
- When my flesh screams, no, I don't want to. And even my desire says, no, I don't want to. But I do it anyway, because that's what he asked me to do. That's real obedience.

5 We Obey God Up to a Point

- One of the biggest concerns is that we obey God up to a point. As long as we agree with him.
- As long as his will is my will, or as long as it's easy, or as long as my flesh doesn't want to violently rebel.
- What we do is we find what we think is a better way. You know, God's way normally works, but on this occasion it won't work.
- We're not acting like Jesus did, because Jesus went ahead and did what his father wanted him to do. Despite the difficulty. Despite the pain.

6 The Author of Salvation to Those Who Obey Him

Hebrews 5:9

- If at that moment Jesus had said, no, I'm not going to do this. You understand that he would not then have been the author of our eternal salvation.
- It's only when we're willing to do that we will truly be blessed.
- Jesus is the author of salvation, eternal salvation to those who obey him, not to those who obey him most of the time or when it's convenient or when they agree.
- That's not real obedience. It's when we obey like he obeyed.

THE CHALLENGE

Don't think just about the times when you do right and you agree. Think about those times when you don't agree. How do you act in those moments? That's the question.

MY NOTES