

Colossians 1:9-14 – A Prayer for Knowing God’s Will

It is easy to think we are doing the right thing but actually be making a mess because we don’t know someone’s will. Do we care about knowing God’s will?

1. Prayer to know God’s will (vv. 9-10a)

The Bible distinguishes between God’s secret will – how things will work out – and his revealed will – how to live for him. Do we ever pray that we would know how to live for him?

2. Prayer to please God (v. 10b)

The reason we pray to know God’s will is that we might please him.

3. How to please God (vv. 10c – 12a)

We please God by:

- a) Bearing fruit in good works
- b) Growing in our knowledge of God
- c) Being strengthened with endurance and patience
- d) Giving joyful thank to God

4. Why please God? (vv. 12b – 14)

We please God out of thankfulness for all he has done for us.

Questions for us? Have you ever been in a situation where you have got things wrong because you didn’t know someone’s will? In what kind of ways might we not know God’s will? What is the difference between the secret and revealed will of God? What are we asking for when we pray to know God’s will? Why would we pray a prayer like that? Do we care about pleasing God? What evidence might there be in our lives that this is true? What does it look like to bear fruit as a Christian? How might we grow in knowledge of God? What might endurance and patience look like for you? How ought we to grow in thankfulness? Why must we live worthily to please God?