

# This Is the Will of God

(Ephesians 5:17)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. – When in school, I always loved teachers who would say, “You better remember this. You will see this again on the test.”
  2. Someday, we are going to be tested (John 12:48).
  3. Part of the good news is that God explicitly told us some of the answers.
  4. In several New Testament passages, the Holy Spirit guided Bible writers to declare, “This is the will of God...”
  5. In this lesson, we’ll look at some of those statements and make sure we’re preparing for our “test” as we should be.

## I. This is the Will of God: Our Sanctification

- A. (1 Thessalonians 4:3).
- B. It’s difficult for people to stay sexually pure in our hyper-sexualized culture.
- C. However, it is possible (Genesis 19:8).
- D. God’s commands are not grievous (1 John 5:3).

## II. This is the Will of God: To Give Thanks

- A. (1 Thessalonians 5:18).
- B. (Philippians 4:6).
- C. We are the recipients of so many of God’s blessings, many we don’t even realize.

## III. This is the Will of God: Don’t Be Conformed to the World

- A. (Romans 12:2).
- B. If we are like the world, how can we be the light we need to be (Matthew 5:16)?
- C. Did the “world” 50 years ago have higher morals than the church today?

## IV. This is the Will of God: Hope is Only in Jesus

- A. (Colossians 1:27).
- B. God revealed this good news to us and without it, we would be hopeless.
- C. We need to be in Jesus (1 Timothy 3:12) and Jesus needs to be in us (Colossians 1:27).

## V. This is the Will of God: Obey the Laws of the Land

- A. (1 Peter 2:13-15).
- B. Of course, there is an exception (Acts 5:29).
- C. Rebellion is the course of our culture today...but not for a child of God.

- Conclusion:
1. As we began, we noted that someday we will have a test.
  2. We’ll have no excuse if we miss these items, because God explicitly told us he wanted us to know these answers.