

“Perfect And Complete in *All* The Will of God”

Col. 4:12

Introduction:

- A. Epaphras understood the importance of doing the will *of God*. (Cf. Eph. 5:17)
 - 1. Rather than own will. (Cf. John 5:30)
 - 2. Rather than will of Gentiles (cf. 1 Pet. 4:1-4)
- B. Epaphras understood the importance of doing *all* the will of God. (Cf. Matt. 28:18-20)
 - 1. Many are careful in some areas, but careless in other areas.
 - a. Careful in "religious" matters, careless in "moral" matters - vice versa.
 - b. Strict in "church" matters, lax in "home" or "work" matters.
 - 2. Many do not seem to realize that the will of God involves entire life (cf. Col. 3:17)
- C. Important to stand perfect and complete in all the will of God in all areas of life:

Discussion:

I. Church Matters

- A. He is the head of the church — collectively and distributively (Eph. 1:22,23).
 - 1. A difference in what we do collectively and individually (cf. 1 Tim. 5:16).
 - 2. All “church” action done by local church.
- B. We must do the will of the Lord in all church action.
 - 1. The Worship of church.
 - 2. The Work of church.
 - 3. The Organization of church.

II. Society Matters

- A. Do all the will of God as a citizen. (1 Pet. 2:13-17).
- B. Do all the will of God as an employer or employee. (Eph. 6:5-9).
- C. Do all the will of God as a buyer and a seller (Rom. 12:17 KJV)
- D. Do all the will of God as a neighbor. (Matt. 5:13-16).
 - 1. Do not be mere thermometer that reflects prevailing standards of society.
 - 2. Be a thermostat (set by God) that sets standards for society.

III. Home Matters

- A. Must be as careful to do God’s will in home as in church and society.
 - 1. Careful to establish and maintain our homes by scriptural authority
 - 2. Careful not to let social pressure, modern thought, or selfish interests prevail.
- B. Must have a high respect of all the will of God in home life.
 - 1. God's will for *rule* in the home.
 - a. Husband over the wife and household (Eph. 5:25ff; 1 Tim. 3:5).
 - b. Parents over children (Eph. 6:1)
 - 2. God's will for *roles* in the home.
 - a. As a husband and father:
 - (1) His primary career: To work and provide. (2 Thess. 3:10; 1 Tim. 5:8).
 - (2) To lead in instruction and discipline children. (Eph. 6:4; Heb. 12:7; 11). Note "Fathers ..."
 - b. As a wife and mother:
 - (1) Her primary career: Homemaker or home manager. (Tit. 2:5; 1 Tim. 5:14).
 - (2) A husband helper (Gen. 2:18; cf. Prov. 31:10, 24)
 - 3. God will for *respect* in the home (Col. 3:18-21).

Conclusion:

- A. Let us strive to be perfect and complete in all God's will, not just in part.
- B. Let us strive as hard to be "perfect and complete" in home, as in society and church.