DETERMING GOD'S WILL

Ps.32:8; Pr. 3:6; Ps.27:11

Text: Ps. 32:8, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go."

On this important matter of divine guidance, the writings of F.B. Meyer and George Muller provide great insight. With the exception of a few minor variances, their recommendations are basically the same. They suggest that, in order to determine God's will for our lives, a dovetailing of four fundamental dynamics is crucial.

The Bible

In the Bible, the promises of guidance are unmistakable. Ps.32:8, "*I will instruct* you and teach you in the way you should go." This is God's distinct assurance to those whose sins and transgressions are forgiven; whose sins are covered (v.1).

Pr.3:6, "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct (or make plain) your paths." This is a sure word that we can count on; provided the preceding conditions of trusting with all our heart, and not leaning to our own understanding, have been met.

Isa. 58:11, "And the LORD will continually guide you."

A Surrendered Will

Jn. 5:30, "My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."

Not only did Jesus practice this secret; He taught it. In one form or another, He was constantly insisting on a surrendered will, as the key to perfect knowledge. We must be like plastic clay, ready to take on any shape that the great Potter may choose, so that we are able to detect His guidance (F. B. Meyer).

Much Prayer

Ps. 27:11, "Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me in a straight path." James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

We need to be praying often, not only on our knees, but in that sweet form of inward prayer, where our spirit is constantly offering itself up to God, asking for His will to be shown; soliciting for His will to be *impressed* upon the surface of our spirit (F.B.Meyer).

Discerning His Providence

Dr. Henry Blackaby says, "Don't ever be afraid to let the body of believers assist you in discerning God's will." God purposely uses His church both to speak and confirm His Word.

Finally, we must learn to develop a keen sense of perception in understanding how and when, He is operating in our daily circumstances. There is nothing relating to us, that the Lord has not arranged.

Whenever we are able to identify that God is speaking to us through His Word in the Bible, through prayer, through the church, or in circumstances, we are able to proceed confidently, knowing that we have assurance that we are following God's will.

Soli Deo Gloria