HIS CHURCH LONDON

FREEDOM

THE WILL

LECTURE 6

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BONDAGE OF THE WILL

The point of deception is where people want to "walk in the Spirit". This does not mean that you become passive. It is not tuning in God and tuning out your mind. Man's will can be brought into bondage through deception and misinterpretation of the scriptures.

Here are a few examples:

1. "Christ lives in me" (Galations 2:20)

- Wrong concept: I do not live at all now.
- Truth: I live by faith in the Son of God. You are never to cease living or your will stops working.
- Principle: God does not require self-effacement for His life to be manifested.

2. "I am crucified with Christ" (Galations 2:20)

- Wrong concept: I am dead and must practise death.
- Truth: I died with Christ and am raised by His life to live.
- Principle: God's purpose for the believer is not death but life.

3. "God works in me" (Philippians 2:13)

- Wrong concept: I do nothing but surrender and God does both the willing and working for me.
- Truth: I can do all things through Christ's power in me. God does not want to turn you into a robot. It will always be you doing both the willing and the working. You are responsible and must use your will to make decisions.
- Principle: God never sets aside man's will. God never requires man to cease his activities before He can work.

COME GROW LEAD

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4. "In everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:8)

- Wrong concept: I will accept all circumstances as the will of God.
- Truth: I will submit to God (not circumstance) in all circumstances.
- Principle: Submission to God and resistance of evil must work together. (Jam 4:7)

5. "Thy will be done" (Matthew 6:10)

- Wrong concept: God wills for me so I don't have to choose.
- Truth: I choose to do His will **(John 7:17; 15:7)**. When you choose God's will, it brings forth God's provision for that situation.
- Principle: God never substitutes His will for man's.

FREEDOM OF THE WILL

A spiritual Christian is one who is free to exercise his will.

- 1. Expose deception by receiving truth
 - Those who come to a place where their will is no longer working are in confusion and deception.

2. Break passivity by activating the will

- The will is a God-given ability and must function.
- The will is activated by responding to God's will. God's will won't allow you to be passive and lazy.
- The will is energized by faith. (Faith is always active).
- The will is strengthened by truth.

COME GROW LEAD



- 3. Exercise the will by making decisions
 - Passive person is unable to act on his own volition.
 - Make a decision and stand on it. Break double-mindedness.
 - Be willing to make wrong decisions. Accept the responsibility of making decisions.
 - Stop allowing circumstances to drive you.
 - Some prefer to be driven by circumstances rather than making a choice.
 - God's will never depend on circumstances. If you're driven by circumstances, you'll lose direction in life.
 - Passivity assumes God is deciding everything for him.
- 4. A battle of the will "Resist the devil"
 - Passive people don't like to fight, but when you're not in control, the enemy is.
 - Man must rule over his own spirit, mind, body, emotions. He rules by the will.
 - Oppose the rule of the enemy and recover all lost ground.
 - Work actively with God for the use of every part of your person.
- 5. The will in control of the spirit, mind and body guarantees freedom
 - The spirit needs the control of the will. (Proverbs 25:28)
 - The mind needs to be subjected to the will.
 (Colossians 3:2, 2 Corinthians 10:5)
 - The body must be the instrument of man.
 (1 Corinthians 9:27)
 - The summit of a Christian's walk is self-control. (Galatians 5:23)

COME GROW LEAD

- 6. We need to be stable and moved only by God's will.
 - Psalm 131:2
- 7. An active will is necessary to maintain deliverance in any area of life.

CONCLUSION

- The capacity to rule and have dominion comes from man's will.
- Satan wasn't to take away man's God-given ability to rule.
- Man must govern his own life.
- Don't submit to circumstances. Submit to God in all circumstances.