

Series: Hebrews

Lesson # 77

Title: The Believer's Purpose

Scripture: Hebrews 13: 20

Date: 4-26-09

Place: Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Princeton, New Jersey

Hebrews 13: 20: Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

DIVISIONS: I. EVERY GOOD WORK; II. THE WILL OF GOD; III.HOW BELIEVERS ARE EQUIPPED

Hebrews 13: 21: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will,

I. WHAT IS EVERY GOOD WORK?

A. Good work means "honest", "lawful" work. It is work that is helpful to brethren and to your fellow man."

1. We have this many people here and every one has various occupations--that is one reason the word "every" is used--it could be translated "all-types of good work."

My honest work is to pastor this church; Art's honest work is to manage Ace Hardware.; Jaime's honest work is as a physician. We have many wives and mothers here whose honest work is to keep the home.

2. There is other honest, good work--visiting the sick, feeding those who can't feed themselves, providing for brethren, etc.

3. But these "various honest labors" are not what is said here to be the will of God. **Hebrews 13: 21: Make you perfect in every good work TO DO his will.** The work is performed TOWARD, or FOR THE INTENT, OF DOING THE WILL OF GOD.

II. THE WILL OF GOD

A. Most every one wants to know what the will of God is for them.

1. Most of the time we simply mean we wish we knew what to do next, usually to save us grief more so than to really know the will of God. But knowing the will of God is very important.

Matthew 7: 21: Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven; 12: 50: For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

B. The will of God is twofold: Listen to the word of the Lord Jesus:

John 6: 38: For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39: And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40: And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1. The will of the Father is for Christ to save his people, thus the will of the Father is to give everlasting life to everyone which believeth on Christ. So first, the will of God is for his people to worship Christ. **Matthew 17: 5:...This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.**

2. Secondly, the will of God is for believers to bear witness of Christ Jesus his Son to others. In this way God will call out others to worship and bear witness of him.

Example: When the apostle Paul was converted the Lord Jesus sent the gospel to him through Annanias. This is what was preached to him: **Acts 22: 14: And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.** This has to do with worshipping Christ. But listen to what else was said of why Paul was converted, **Acts 9:15: But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:**

3. You see every good work that the God of peace has performed from the beginning of time as we know it, has been to do one thing--bring glory to his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. So that is why his people are yet in this earth--to glorify his Son.

Hebrews 13: 21: Make you perfect in (every kind of labor) every good work to (worship Christ and bear witness of Christ) to do his will.

Let's see it in what our Lord prayed in **John 17: 18: As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19: And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20: Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;**

Christ separated himself from this world in order to separate his disciples from this world by faith. Then Christ sent them into the world even as God the Father sent Christ into the world and he said it was for them also which shall believe on me through their word.

If you believe Christ then you are his willing-bond servant. As willing-bond servants we do that which he has given us a charge to do. Worship him and bear witness of him. **Matthew 6: 24: No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25: Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat,**

or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?...33: But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness. You seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness by worshipping him, reading his word, seeking him in prayer. And remember that the lost sheep which are scattered and do not yet know Christ make up the kingdom of God--seek ye first the kingdom of God.

So whatever kind of work God has given us to do, if we are truly doing it as unto the Lord, then it is because the end for which we give ourselves to our work is so our families can worship Christ and to get this gospel out to others. Otherwise, our god is our belly!

III. HOW WILL WE BE EQUIPPED TO DO GIVE OURSELVES TO WORSHIP AND BEAR WITNESS OF CHRIST THROUGH THE GOSPEL?

A. By God the Father

Hebrews 13: 20: Now the God of peace,

Do you long for peace?

How many people have you read about who are high achievers in this world and yet have no peace? It is because they have no purpose.

We will not obtain peace by seeking it from the world or from our temporal accomplishments. Peace is not to be found in a physician, in a pill, or in a bottle. We will obtain no peace by looking to ourselves. Peace can not be found in our carrying out the motions of religious exercises. Peace is given only by the God of peace. The word "peace" is used the first time in scripture as one of the first things God promised to Abraham:

Genesis 15:15: And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace;

B. Through our Lord Jesus Christ

V21: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ;

(These are the 3 ingredients to lasting peace: 1. The resurrection of Christ Jesus the Lord 2. Christ our great Shepherd; 3. The everlasting covenant)

1. The God of peace brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus.

Christ being raised by the God of peace means God is satisfied. WE have peace with God (Ro 5) because our Israel--Christ as a Prince has prevailed with God. **Isaiah 9:6: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called...the Prince of Peace.** God is just and the justifier--mercy and truth have met together.

Hebrews 1: 13: But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

1 Corinthians 6:14 And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

2. Our great Shepherd is our Peace--

The God of peace brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep. **Isaiah 40:11: He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.**

John 10: 11: I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. 12: But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. 13: The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. 14: I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine.

3. The everlasting covenant written in Christ's blood is our peace--The everlasting covenant is called a covenant of peace.

Nu 25:12 Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace:

Eze 34:25 And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

Eze 37:26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

Christ signed it in his own blood. It is a sure covenant.

C. Through the Holy Spirit

Hebrews 13: 21: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3: 16: That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; 17: That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18: May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

May God fill us with this fullness--equip us in the love of Christ--so that we behold that every labor we do in this life is to serve only this one end--in every honest labor you engage in spend and be spent to worship Christ and to be used by God to bring sinners to Christ.

And when you have done all--who will receive the glory? God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit--**v21: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

