

SEMINAR: GOD'S WILL ALONE

THE FUTURE OF SALVATION (SOLA DEI VOLUNTANTE)

*"Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ,
doing the will of God from the heart;"*
~ Ephesians 6:6

1. Semper Reformanda

- a. Why does it seem salvation / gospel truth is so fickle/fragile through 2000 years?
- b. How do these doctrines that have always been true, get lost?
- c. The five solae are essential for salvation: two today are "guardians" of it.
- d. We are being saved according to what purpose? What are we saved for? God's will alone.

2. God's will must be alone

- a. God's will will affect how you pray, how you serve, how you think, how you live
- b. Luke 22:42 – Jesus prayed, "nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."
- c. Gal 2:20 - "*yet not I, but Christ liveth in me*"
- d. 2 Cor 5:14-15 – We ought to serve the Lord, not ourselves... but how? Eph 6:5-6
- e. People pray asking God's will, wanting fortune teller, address where they see it going
- f. Perhaps God's word is not telling you because you are seeking the wrong will – Phil 2:21
- g. On lifelong journey of discovery God's will – pressured people will find it (right or wrong)
- h. How to not do God's will, but yours: The easy way – be selfish, careless, apathetic.
- i. The hard way: 1) Bible can't be understood. 2) Look to your heart/circumstances Ecc 3:11, Ps 37:4, 3) Tell yourself God controls the outcome Prov 3:5-6, 4) Take steps of blind faith
- j. This is a great lie → living according to our own will – calling it Gods.
- k. If you do not know God's will – you are not doing God's will, but yours.

3. God's will must be known

- a. Dispensational Bible study is a giant arrow pointing you to God's will
- b. Dispensational Bible study = study of what God is doing, or of God's will. Q1 or Q4
- c. Jer 29:11 in the NIV (the new DR) has caused the problems – this is not God's will for you!
- d. Isa 64:4 and 1 Cor 2:9 - Either you can't know, or wait, but no! 1 Cor 2:10, 16, Eph 1:9
- e. God's will now is revealed! Eph 1:9-10, 3:8-10, 1 Tim 2:4, 1 Th 4:3, 1 Th 5:16-18
- f. Dispensational Bible study is not needed if you are not interested in serving the Lord.
- g. Serving the Lord requires you ask, what is your will?, what is he doing, what should I do?
- h. Semper Reformanda – Always reforming (not always reformed, or new). Always correcting.
- i. Reformed are stuck in the past. Many dispensationalists moved out/on from Reformed
- j. Bible reading, care for words, clear gospel, leads to literal dispensational Bible study

4. God's will must be done.

- a. Most Christians are unsaved b/c of a failure to hold on to essential saving truths alone
- b. The "alone" statements seem radical (exclusive) – but revolutions start such ways
- c. It sounds radical to say Paul's epistles alone – but the Reformation looked to them.
- d. Where they erred is when they departed from God's will revealed to Paul.
- e. Our instruction is to redeem the time by doing God's will - Eph5:15-17
- f. Evangelical mistake – we can teach salvation w/o dispensational Bible study
- g. Salvation by the five solae has no future without knowing the will of God
- h. It is no longer us who are waiting for God's will, but God waiting on us – Eph 3:9, 6:19
- i. You are the cutting edge - Pauline doctrine is the spark that will light another revolution. Let's pray we live to see it.

"The great Christian revolutions came not by the discovery of something that was not known before. They happen when someone takes radically something that was always there." – H Richard Niebuhr

Reformation about returning to Paul:

"The heart of the English, as of the continental, theological Reformation was the discovery of the theology of Paul. Central to Tyndale's insistence on the need for the Scriptures in English was his grasp that Paul had to be understood in relation to each reader's salvation, and he needed there, above all, to be clear." – David Daniell – Tyndale Biography