

Whoever finds his life will  
lose it, and whoever loses  
his life for my sake will  
find it.  
Mt 10:39

Share the teaching  
Guard the sharing

# Male Call

---

January 26, 2007

## God's Will—Acting in the Chaos, Part I

5:55 – 1) Coffee & Donuts  
6:05

2) Opening Prayer

6:05 – **Acting in a world of chaos**  
6:25

1) Adam in Gen 3:1-6, was silent in the moment of chaos. How can we do better?

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." And Jesus answered him, "**It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'**" And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." And Jesus answered him, "**It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'**" And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" And Jesus answered him, "**It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'**" And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Lk 4:1-13 (ESV)

And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "**Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.**" And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Lk 22:41-44 (ESV)

Also see examples in Mk 8:33, Lk 9:51 (cf Isa 50:5-9), Jn 18:10-11

- 2) Compare Jesus response to that of Adam in Gen 3:1-6. Jesus, the last Adam (1Cor 15:45) spoke in the chaos.
- a) Jesus was single minded about obeying God
  - b) Jesus was confident to speak because he knew God's will

- 3) Are we silent because we suffer from *analysis paralysis*?
- 4) Finding God's will in the chaos
  - a) Pharisees:
 

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." But he answered them, "**An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.** Mat 12:38-3
  - b) Seeking the "mind" of God
    - i) Prohibited by Deut 18:10-11
  - c) Pray for "smarts" to make a decision (i.e., "wisdom"; Jam 1:5)
    - i) In OT, "wisdom" is a character trait
    - ii) James similarly defines it in Jam 3:17
- 5) Following God—trusting Him in the chaos.
  - a) "The New Testament gives no explicit instructions to find 'God's will,' nor can you find any instructions on how to do it."<sup>1</sup>
  - b) Following God is based on a relationship, not divination.
    - i) Two things are required:
      - (1) Walk close to God (build a relationship—Mt 22:37)
      - (2) Obey His word (Jn 14:15)

Interaction and Prayer:

- 1) What holds you back from speaking in the chaos?
- 2) What are the ways you have searched for the will of God in the chaos?
- 3) What do you need to be able to walk closer to God and obey his commands?  
(Hint: think of a great relationship you have had with another person)

6:55 – Closing Prayer  
7:00

Further reading:

*The Silence of Adam*, Larry Crabb

*Finding the Will of God, a pagan notion?*, Bruce Waltke

---

<sup>1</sup> Waltke, p12