

Everything depends on the right action of the will?

John 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Verb

will do

informal expressing willingness to carry out a request or suggestion: “*Might be best to check.*” “*OK, will do.*”

noun

1 [*usually in singular*] the faculty by which a person decides on and initiates action: *she has an iron will* | *a battle of wills between children and their parents* | *an act of will.*

- *control deliberately exerted to do something or to restrain one's own impulses: a stupendous effort of will.*
- a deliberate or fixed desire or intention: *Jane had not wanted them to stay **against their will*** | [*with infinitive*] : *the will to live.*
- the thing that one desires or ordains: *the disaster was God's will.*

1 *she has the will to succeed* | *a stupendous effort of will*: **determination**, firmness of purpose, fixity of purpose, will power, strength of character, resolution, resolve, resoluteness, purposefulness, single-mindedness, drive, commitment, dedication, doggedness, tenacity, tenaciousness, staying power, backbone, spine; self-control, self-restraint, self-discipline, self-mastery; volition; *German Sitzfleisch*; *informal* stickability; *North American informal* stick-to-it-iveness; *rare* perseveration.

Heb. 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.

Phil. 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Note: Refusing the works of the Commandments is to Oppose God. Isa. 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

The tempted one needs to understand the true force of the will. This is the

governing power in the nature of man—the power of decision, of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. Desires for goodness and purity are right, as far as they go; but if we stop here, they avail nothing. Many will go down to ruin while hoping and desiring to overcome their evil propensities. They do not yield the will to God. They do not *choose* to serve Him. —The Ministry of Healing, 176 (1905). 2MCP 685.2; SC 47.1.

The angels of God were commissioned to visit the fallen pair and inform them that although they could no longer retain possession of their holy estate, their Eden home, because of their transgression of the law of God, yet their case was not altogether hopeless. They were then informed that the Son of God, who had conversed with them in Eden, had been moved with pity as He viewed their hopeless condition, and had volunteered to take upon Himself the punishment due to them, and die for them that man might yet live, through faith in the atonement Christ proposed to make for him. Through Christ a door of hope was opened, that man, notwithstanding his great sin, should not be under the absolute control of Satan. **Faith** in the merits of the Son of God would so elevate man that he could resist the devices of Satan. Probation would be granted him in which, through a life of **repentance and faith** in the atonement of the Son of God, he might be redeemed from his transgression of the Father's law, and thus be elevated to a position where his efforts to keep His law could be accepted. SR 46.3

Some obtain answers to prayer, a little freedom, and they become elated. They do not increase in faith, do not grow in strength and courage, but they depend on feeling. If they happen to feel well, they think they are in favor with God. How many stumble here! how many are overcome! Feeling is no criterion for any of us. “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” [Hebrews 11:1.] **We are to examine our character in God's mirror, his holy law, to detect our errors and imperfections, and then to remove them by the precious blood of Christ.** GW92 427.2