Romans 1:13 God's Will and Hindrances to Plans & Prayers (Part 1)

Introduction.

- Theme: How do I Biblically balance God's Will with the hindrances to my plans and prayers?
- I. <u>Plan</u> Right 1:13a.
 - Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 16:1, 3, 9, 33; Romans 14:23; 15:23.
- II. Pray Right.
 - A. Pray the Right way 1:8-10.
 - B. Pray for Right things 1:11, 12. James 4:2, 3.

Transition: But even the best of praying goes unanswered and the best of planning goes hindered. Why?

III. Ponder Right.

- Remember God and His Way found in His Word.
 - 1. Remember: God's way may be teaching me that I'm not that necessary. God wants to teach me about His sovereignty. Psalm 57:2.
 - 2. Remember: God's way may be giving me other work to do at present. God wants to teach me about His greatest work for me. Romans 15:18-23; Galatians 5:22, 23; Romans 6:22; Hebrews 13:15; Philippians 4:16, 17; Romans 16:5; Acts 16:6-10.
 - 3. Remember: God's way may be teaching me about spiritual warfare. God wants to teach me about His kingdom at large. Daniel 10:1-14; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; 1 Thessalonians 2:18.

Conclusion.

Don't dig a trench that you fall in yourself regarding God's
Will and hindrances to prayer and planning. Plan right,
pray right and think right about God's control, about God's
greatest work that He has for you right now, and about
spiritual warfare; you can have the victory by His grace.

Questions for Thought and Discussion.

- 1. What was the truth that stuck out the most to you?
- 2. Explain why immature believers do not expect much from prayer and become fatalistic.
- 3. According to Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 16:1, 3, 9, 33 and Romans 14:23, what are some very obvious things God tells us to do concerning guidance and decision-making?
- 4. What are the right elements of prayer mentioned in Romans 1:8-10?
- 5. What are some of the right things for which to pray according to Romans 1:11, 12?
- 6. According to James 4:2, 3, does prayer change things / circumstances? Why or why not? Can you think of any other passages that teach the same truth?
- 7. How does Psalm 57:2 teach that God is sovereign? Can you think of any other verses that teach about God's control?
- 8. What fruit does God expect according to Galatians 5:22, 23?
- 9. What fruit does God expect according to Romans 6:22 and Hebrews 13:15?
- 10. What fruit does God desire according to Romans 16:5?
- 11. Which is God more interested in changing: me or my circumstances? Why do you think that is? Can you think of any Scripture references that illustrate that truth?
- 12. What does Daniel 10:1-14 teach us about spiritual warfare?
- 13. How can we as Christians become more aware to the spiritual warfare?

Thoughts for Prayer.

- 1. Pray that God would help us all in our church to plan right, pray right, and think right.
- 2. Pray that God would help us all remember that He is in control and that we are not as necessary as what we think we are.
- 3. Pray that God would help us all remember that He has great work for us to do right now no matter what our circumstances.
- 4. Pray that God would help us all remember that there is a spiritual battle.
- 5. Pray the requests of Romans 1:8-10; Ephesians 3:14-21; Philippians 1:9-11; Colossians 1:9-11 for our church and missionaries.