GOD'S WILL FOR MAN

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INTRODUCTION

- A. "who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth." v. 4
 - 1. God's desire for man has always been for his good.
 - 2. The Paradise of Eden.
 - 3. Now the Paradise of Heaven.
- B. GOD SENT HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE.
 - 1. "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." (Rom. 8:3).
 - 2. Paul tells us in I Tim. 1:15 that Christ came to save sinners.
 - 3. This is the message of the Bible...God's desire to save man.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- A. "Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked? Saith the Lord Jehovah; and not rather that he should return from his way, and live?For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord Jehovah; wherefore turn yourselves and live." (Ezek. 18:23, 32).
 - 1. Children of Israel in Captivity.
 - 2. The captivity would continue for 70 years.
 - 3. But....Their relationship with God was not determined by their captivity, but by their life.
 - 4. God's plan for them was.... "turn yourselves and live.".
- B. "but is long suffering to you ward, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (II Pet. 3:9).
 - 1. The context back to v. 1.
 - 2. God gives opportunity to all men.
- C. Luke 19:10..... Jesus came to seek and to save the lost.
 - 1. John 3:16.
 - 2. Rev. 22:17...whosoever will let him come.
- D. If this (Man's Salvation) is what God wants, and He is all Powerful, then will all men be saved?
 - 1. The good and the wicked.
 - 2. The obedient and the disobedient.
 - 3. Can man successfully resist the Will of God?

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CONTEXT OF 1ST TIM. 2

- A. The Practice of Prayer For All Men. v. 1.
 - 1. Not just a race or select few.
 - 2. Because God "would have all men to be saved."
- B. TO SHOW THIS PAUL POINTS TO THE CHARACTER AND WILL OF GOD:
 - 1. As the universal Savior. V. 4
 - 2. To His unity as the one God of all men. v. 5 "one God".
 - 3. To His provision of the human Christ Jesus as the single mediator between His self and the human race. V. 5. *"himself man, Christ Jesus."*
 - 4. To the universal scope of Christ's redeeming act which was for all. V. 6 *who gave himself a ransom for all.* "
 - 5. To the consequent testimony to God's purpose to save all men which is provided by the accomplishment of the promised redemption at the appointed time. V. 6 *"the testimony to be borne in its own time."*
 - 6. To his (Paul's) own appointment to share in its proclamation as none other than a teacher of the Gentiles. One called to evangelize men of all nations v. 7 *"a teacher of the Gentiles."*

WHAT WENT WRONG

- A. AS WE SEE FROM THE BEGINNING GOD'S LOVE AND DESIRE FOR MAN....WHAT WENT WRONG?
- B. <u>THE GARDEN OF EDEN.</u>
 - 1. The Creation Story.
 - 2. The Paradise made for man.
 - 3. The complete fellowship man had with God.
 - 4. Man cast out of the Garden, Separated from God and Sentenced to Die.
 - 5. That which went wrong....THE CAUSE WAS SIN!
 - 6. Sin is Transgression of God's law...Lawlessness. (I John 3:4).
- C. BIBLE PASSAGES:
 - 1. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18:4).
 - 2. "The wages of sin is death." (Rom. 6:23).
- D. WHAT WENT WRONG....THE ANSWER IS SIN!

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WHAT GOD HAS DONE

A. BECAUSE HE WANTS ALL MEN TO BE SAVED:

- 1. HE SENT His Only Son (John 3:16).
- 2. Christ died in our place
- 3. Paid the Debt of Sin.
- 4. Offered Salivation to all. "For the grace of God hath appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us, to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously and godly in this present world;" (Titus 2:11,12).
- B. GOD'S INVITATION.
 - 1. Matt. 11:28-30).
 - 2. He is not going to make us.
 - 3. But He offers Salvation to all men.
- C. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?