

11 March 2018

## The will of God: Pt 1 – introduction

This is the first study on our new topic – The will of God. In this, our introduction to the topic we establish that – according to the scriptures God's ways are past finding out, but for those who are "spiritually discerned" (1Cor.2: 14) they can know the will of God from the word of God which also gives knowledge on how to prove the Lord's will.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

### 1. God's ways are past finding out.

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" (Rom.11: 33).

Notwithstanding that –

#### i) Christians have the scriptures that record the will of God.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2Tim.3: 16).

An example from the scriptures –

"For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men" (1Pet.2: 15).

#### ii) According the scriptures Christians can prove the will of God for themselves.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom.12: 2).

#### iii) Christians have the Spirit of God that bears witness and gives discernment.

"This is he that came by water and blood, [even] Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth" (1Jn.5: 6), c.f. – 1Cor 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned".

Applying the teaching to our life today.

In August 2002 it was recorded that the new Archbishop of Canterbury Dr. Rowan Williams had been inducted as a Druid, but he said "that he had been 'saddened' by the misrepresentations about the ceremony, which sparked concern about pagan links."

Question to think about.

How would a Christian reading of Dr Rowan's induction know whether the, then head of the 85 million strong Anglican church was fulfilling the will of God or not, and whether they should follow him if he was discerning the will of Almighty God?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

When a Christian compares the Druid's belief of reincarnation to the scriptures of truth they find a contradiction with many doctrines like – eternal life in heaven for believers when they die. And we know that "God is not the author of confusion (1Cor.14: 33). If a child of God were to ask the Lord if it was His will for them to be inducted as a Druid (because they desired to be) and they discerned a yes from their prayers, then God has sent "them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie". Because their discernment was contrary to the will of God outlined in the scriptures. Let us remember that the first step in discerning the will of God is to prayerfully search the scriptures under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as the scriptures provide a record of the will of God for His children, which **cannot** contradict the word of God. And if your discernment of the will of God does contradict the scriptures then the Spirit of God has NOT led you in truth, but an evil spirit from Satan has deceived you.

Therefore, to know the will of God we encourage you, as a first step, to search the scriptures.