

The Will of God

Decisions, Decisions

What car should I buy?

What church should I attend?

Should I take
this job?

Should I move out of my parents house?

Is this the right person
to marry?

Should I go to
college?

What college should I go to?

Should I retire?

How do I plan for retirement?

Class Overview

- Providence
- General and Special Revelation
- The “Two Wills” of God
- Decision-Making (The Traditional View)
- The Dangers of Subjectivity
- Biblical Decision-Making
- The “Big Three” (Housing, Marriage, & Employment)

Providence Defined

“The continuing action of God by which he preserves in existence the creation which he has brought into being, and guides it to his intended purposes for it.” - Millard Erickson *Christian Theology* pg. 387.

Providence - “Preservation”

“God keeps all things existing and maintaining the properties with which He created them”

- Neh. 9:6
- Heb. 1:3
- Col. 1:17
- 2 Peter 3:7
- Job 34:14-15
- Ps. 104:29

Providence - “Concurrence”

“God cooperates with created things in every action, directing their distinctive properties to cause them to act as they do”

- Inanimate creation

- Ps. 148:8, Job 37:6-13, Ps. 135:6-7, Ps. 104:14, Job 38:32, Matt. 5:45, Lk. 8:25.

- Animal World

- Ps. 104:21-29, Job 38:39-41, Matt. 6:26 & 10:29.

- “Random” Events

- Prov. 16:33.

Providence - “Government”

“God has a purpose in all that He does and He governs or directs all things in order that they accomplish His purpose”

- Eph. 1:11
- Job 12:23
- Ps. 22:28
- Acts 17:26
- Dan. 4:24-25, 34-35
- Dan. 2:21
- Ps. 47:7-8
- Ps. 66:7
- 1 Sam. 2:6-7
- Ezra 1:1
- Ex. 3:21 (12:35-36)
- Prov. 16:1, 19:21
- Acts 2:23
- Ps. 139:16 (Job 14:5)
- Jer. 10:23 (Prov. 16:9)
- Phil. 2:13