*Thursday, August 22, 2013*

**Will**

Titus 1:7-9 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. (KJV)

We have been looking at the will and purpose of God this week, and as we see above there are certain qualifications the Lord requires for those that are seeking the position of a bishop. A bishop or an elder are those that oversee the flock or congregation, but most importantly they should lead by example, the ones that are doers and not just hearers of the Word. If you notice, the first thing the Lord deals with is the will, because you have to get self out of the equation before HIs will, will ever function.

2 Peter 2:10-12 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, self willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. 11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. 12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; (KJV)

The Bible describes a fool and how he is known or made manifest, and that would be by the multitude of nonsense that comes out of their mouth. These are the ones that are always complaining about all the other churches and pastors and how they run things, despite the fact that their own lives are dysfunctional. Don’t think for one moment there are not a lot of these natural brute beasts within the so called church, you know those folks with the holier than though attitudes?

Proverbs 29:18-20 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keeps the law, happy is he. 19 A servant will not be corrected by words: for though he understands he will not answer. 20 See thou a man that is hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him. (KJV)

You know when things are not right between you and God because the Holy Spirit will convict your heart. You can run and try to hide or play the blame game, but in the end you will be judged according to the will of God. Take note of the fact that when you try to justify yourself with a bunch of idle words it puts you in the category of a fool.

Hosea 4:6-8 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shall be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. 7 As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame. 8 They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity. (KJV)

Knowledge is not just something you read in a book, or get by keeping headphones on all day. Knowledge is something you actually walk in and make a way of life because you are doing the will of God and not your own. Do notice that God is specific in pointing out that His people who should know better are still being destroyed and will not be considered for the position of a priest or bishop.

God bless dearly loved, and be diligent today to make your calling and election sure. Have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.