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Faith Bible Church
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<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Volition-3-wills.pdf>

DAILY DOCTRINE
Volition: The Three Wills

Will #1: The Absolute Will of God (Sovereignty of God)

1. God is a self-determining personality; He is sovereign, Psa. 135:6.
2. God's sovereignty is eternal (Psa. 45:6) and infinite (Luke 1:37).
3. God is the supreme being of the universe, 1 Chron. 29:1-12; Heb. 6:13.
4. God is the King of all the earth, Psa. 24:10; 8:1; 47:7; 93; Heb. 8:1; Isa. 66:1.
5. God does whatsoever He pleases—always according to His nature, 1 Sam 2:6-8; Psa. 115:3.
6. God, in His sovereignty, is pleased to give angels and man freewill.

Will #2: Freewill of Angels.

1. Satan's freewill is recorded in Isaiah 14:13-14 in his five "I wills."
2. 1/3 of the angels exercised their freewills in following him and consequently became demons.

Will #3: The Freewill of Man

1. Grammatical indications of man's freewill are found in every 3rd class condition and subjunctive mood ("if"), every "whosoever will," every alternative (cf., John 3:36).
2. The fact that man is made in the image of God (who has volition) as a reasoning being infers freewill. Animals do not have freewill because freewill requires rational abstract thought.
3. Scripture explicitly tells us that man can reject God's will:
Luke 7:30 But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves, not having been baptized by John.
3. The very nature of the fall of man presents the fact of freewill, for the only way in which Adam could fall was his volition working independently of God.
4. Man's freewill intersects with God's sovereign will at the cross, 2 Peter 3:9; Acts 2:23; 4:28.

Issue in the Human Race

1. Will the freewill of man act in conjunction with the divine will of God or act independently?
2. Every person throughout human history is on stage before the entire angelic realm to see if he will follow God's will or his own.
3. Those who follow God's will live in grace and are blessed. Those who reject God's will are always eventually brought down. We are, among other things, living lessons to the angelic realm of the futility of rejecting God's will. This illustrates that God's sentence on Satan was just.
5. Those who adjust to God's will will be exalted in greater grace; those who reject God's will are proud and will be brought down by God Himself:
James 4:6 But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble [grace oriented]."

Pastor Don