

Ephesians 1:9
Summary Review

“He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him” (NASB)

“having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,” (NKJV)

“γνωρίσας	ἡμῖν	τὸ	μυστήριον	τοῦ	θελήματος	αὐτοῦ
“making known	to us	the	mystery	of the	will	of Him,

κατὰ	τὴν	εὐδοκίαν	αὐτοῦ,	ἣν	προέθετο	ἐν	αὐτῷ” (NA21)
according to	the	good pleasure	of Him,	which	He purposed	in	Him” (KMT)

Expanded Translation:

“performing the action in a point in time in the past as a matter of principle to make experiential knowledge of facts known based on His own initiation to us the secret known only to those on the inside of an organization, being a tool or instrument used to accomplish something, of the volitional expression of an individual to carry out a specific course of action in order to accomplish a desired result, objective, or outcome, based on initiation, of Him, an Initiator, according to the norms and standards of the goodness of that which is well-pleasing to one’s thought process or motivation, based on response, of Him, an Initiator, which, based on response, He really participated in the action in a point in time to set into place beforehand in the sphere of Him,”

Principles:

1. God the Father has made known to believers in Christ the mystery of His will.
2. The mysterious nature of God’s will is the result of it being kept hidden from those who have not yet been initiated into God’s family and kingdom.
3. Thus, to know God’s will requires one to be a part of His family and kingdom.
4. Additionally, God’s will is spiritual in nature, which requires a living human spirit in order to be understood.
5. Consequently, unbelievers do not have access to the mystery of God’s will although believers in Christ do.
6. Believers have access to God’s will because God has brought them into His family and kingdom by means of the blood of Christ upon which they have believed.
7. By faith in Christ God has initiated believers into His family and kingdom and made known to them the secret of His will.
8. Those outside of God’s family and kingdom can only recognize God’s plan for salvation through Christ because God became man and dwelt among us and because of the Holy Spirit’s convicting work in the world.
9. Believers are able to understand the will of God because He has made it known to them since they are a part of His family and kingdom in Christ.
10. God’s plan to make known His will to believers in Christ is a part of how He made His grace abound to those who are in Christ.
11. Not only do believers have a new righteous, holy, blameless identity with full rights and privileges in

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the body of Christ by means of grace, but also believers have had God's will made known to them by means of His grace in Christ.

12. God's abounding of grace to the believer in Christ in the area of His will is in accordance with that which pleases His desire for the believer.

13. He wants believers to know His will so that believers can operate in wisdom and develop a reflexive thought process that is spiritual, righteous, and fulfills His will.

14. God did not leave believers in the dark regarding His will but made the experiential knowledge of His will available to believers through instruction of academic fact that they can understand and rely upon personally.

15. Thus, believers are able to understand God's will, approve that which is indeed God's will, and walk in fulfillment of God's will as a result of God making His grace abound to those who are in Christ.

16. God's will is in three categories:

- a. Directive will-that which God directs man to choose.
- b. Permissive Will-that which God permits man to choose.
- c. Overruling Will-that which God blocks man from accomplishing in his choice through circumstances.

17. By growing in the grace and knowledge of God, the believer is able to learn God's will and walk in it so that he is able to carry out God's plan for His life.

18. Fulfilling God's plan for the believer's life is only possible as a result of God establishing a Savior for man.

19. God's good pleasure for revealing His will to the believer was set up prior to its use as being in Christ.

20. Thus, it pleased God's purposes and objectives for the believer that He use Christ as the location in which to make known His will.

Conclusion:

Paul identifies that God was well-pleased to reveal His will to those who are in Christ. The revelation of His will allows believers to function in wisdom and insight as they develop an understanding of God's revelation. This allows believers to complete the objective for which they were secured: fulfillment of God's plan for their individual lives. For this God is to be praised and glorified along with His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom and in Whom the knowledge of God's will was made available to man.