

DECISION MAKING & GOD'S WILL

Part 1: How to Make Good Decisions



The process of decision-making includes making a judgment about an attitude or action. Decisions are an act of the will, and they are always influenced by the mind, the emotions, or both. The decisions we make actually reflect the desires of our heart (Psalm 119:30). Therefore, a key question before making a decision is "do I choose to please myself, or do I choose to please the Lord?"

WORLD'S WORSE DECISIONS



Sam Phillips owned a small recording company in Memphis. In 1955 he sold to RCA Records, for the sum of \$35,000, the exclusive contract he had with a young man named Elvis Presley, thereby forfeiting royalties on more than a billion records.

In 1910 Olav Olavson decided to raise some cash by selling his body to the Karolinska Institute, for medical research after his death. The following year he inherited a fortune and tried to buy himself back. The institute refused to sell and went to court to verify their claim. They even won damages, since Olav had *had two teeth pulled without asking their permission*.

In 1862 the Union and Confederacy forces met at the Battle of Antietam. The Union forces under General Burnside were ordered to cross the Potomac River and join battle with the enemy. They marched across the bridge two abreast, making an ideal target for Confederate gunners placed so as to command the bridge. The slaughter was appalling. General Burnside had failed to notice that the river was *only waist deep* and could have been crossed at any other point in perfect safety.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you personally go about making decisions that are complex where no solution is immediately obvious? How has this approach worked for you in the past?
2. What obstacles tend to keep us from making good decisions?
3. Should Christians seek God's will for every decision they face? If not, why not?

TYPES OF DECISIONS


