

BIBLE CHALLENGE 2019

Week 10: March 3-9

What is God's Will for the World?

Read: Deuteronomy 4:20; 29:29; 32:4,9-10; 2 Samuel 22:31; Ezra 7:27; Nehemiah 9:6; Job 11:6-7; 12:10; 14:5; Psalm 22:29; 36:6; 57:2; 135:6-7; 147:8-9; Proverbs 16:1,33; 19:21; **Ecclesiastes 3:14; Isaiah 14:24-27**; 26:12; 43:1-7; 45:7; 46:9-10; 64:8; Jeremiah 18:6; Hosea 6:6; **Amos 3:6-7**; Zechariah 12:1; **Acts 4:27-28**; Romans 8:20,27; 11:36; 12:2; 1 Corinthians 12:6; 2 Corinthians 3:5; 8:5; **Ephesians 1:11; 2:10; 3:7-13**; Philippians 2:13; Colossians 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; 5:18; Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 2:15; 2 Peter 3:9-10; 1 John 2:17; Jude 4; **Revelation 4:11; 17:17**. Read Psalms 33 and 104 in full.

In 1646, the Westminster Confession of Faith was published and the the first question asked in its shorter catechism was: "What is the chief end of man?" In other words, "What is the meaning of life?" The answer given: "Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever." About 80 years earlier, in 1561, the Belgic Confession spoke similarly of God's design for man, stating that man was created to do good works and "to will agreeably to the will of God."

If you want to expand this principle out somewhat and apply it to the whole of God's creation, then the answer to this week's question is that God made everything (great and small) for his glory. And the believer says, "Amen!" Indeed, Amen. But, perhaps we want to dig deeper.

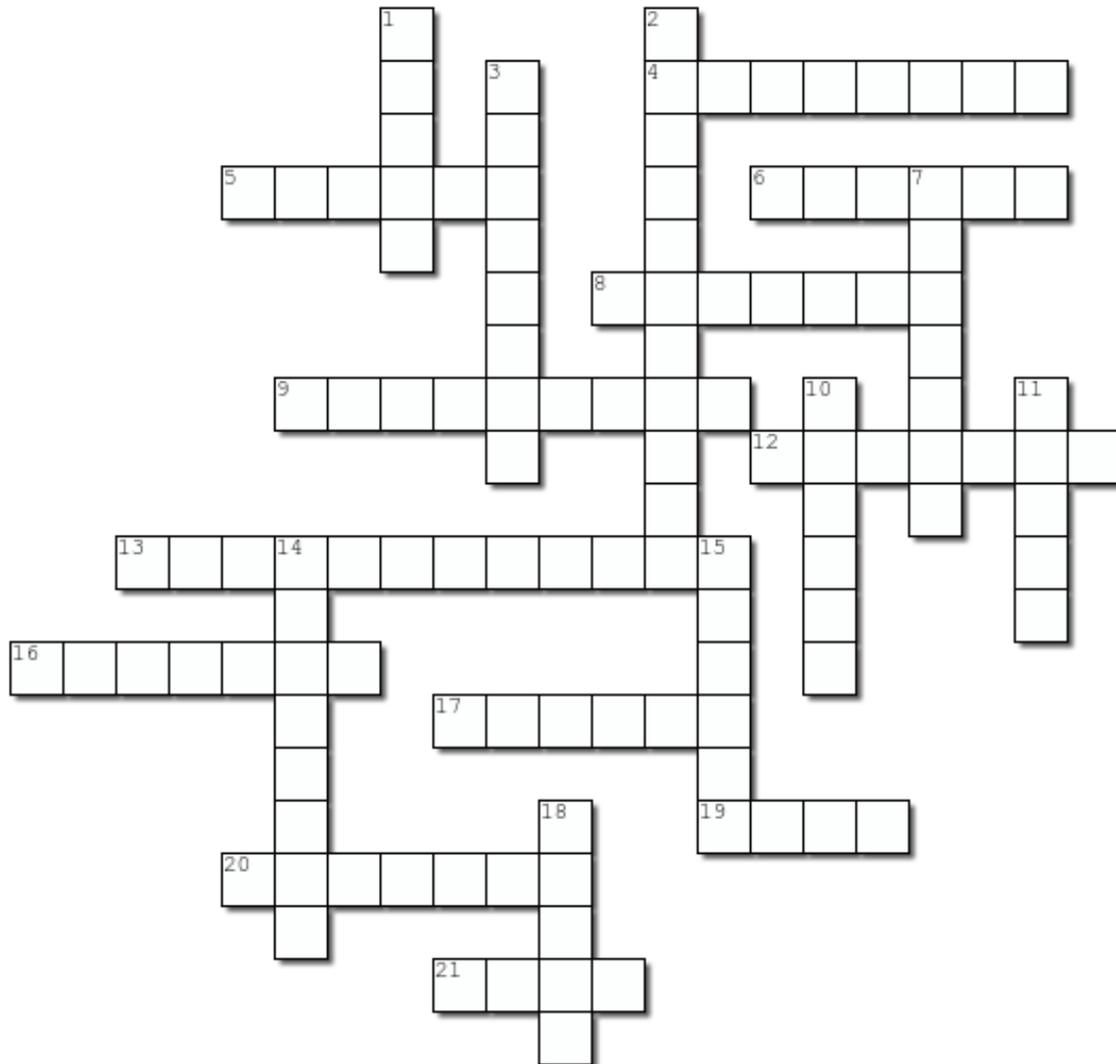
Perhaps the most useful single-passage to which we can look is found in answering this question can be found in Deuteronomy 29:29 — that the secret things are left to God and that which has been revealed is for us and for our children. So, what has been revealed to us? We know that God made all things for his glory and for the glory of his Son. We know that he also has ordained all things that have come to pass and we know that he is even using our sin in a manner that is sinless to bring about his praise.

We know that there is a promised restoration of the earthly world in which the elect, in their glorified bodies, will dwell eternally. We also know that it is God's will to bring the reprobate into eternal judgment and cast them along with death and Satan into the great lake of fire. We know that God does not count time as we count time and thus he is patient to bring the entire number of the elect to Christ before that day when Christ returns. And we know that if we will find any meaning and fulfillment in life that it will come in the context of worship.

Why does worship play such a crucial role in the will of God? It is simply because He is worthy of our

worship — even if we are non-believers. Were a famous artist to come to the area and present his masterpieces, it would be rude of us to not acknowledge his work. Were an accomplished athlete to visit, again, it would be rude to not give honor where honor is due. The same could be said if we were served an exquisite meal or listened to a remarkable composer play the piano for us. It is right to give honor to ones who have accomplished great things. And God is infinitely greater than any artist, composer, chef, or athlete. And so, to not give Him honor where it is due would be infinitely more disrespectful. And thus praise is due from all of creation, inside the church or no. If we would find God's will for us, it will be in the context of our fearing, worshipping, and venerating Him.

Week 10: What is the Will of God for the World?



Created using the [Crossword Maker](#) on [TheTeachersCorner.net](#)

Across

4. These things belong to us and to our children.
5. These things belong to the Lord.
6. 'The Lord's portion is his _____.'
8. 'I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his _____ for me.'
9. 'Your righteousness is like the _____, O Lord'
12. Solomon says that the things that God does stand _____.
13. 'Whoever does the will of God will _____.' (2 words)
16. It is God's will for us that we should '_____ the ignorance of foolish people.'
17. We are to give this in all circumstances.
19. 'Be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your _____.'
20. If we would discern God's purpose for our lives, it will be in the context of worship.
21. By God's _____ all things exist and were created.

Down

1. God says not to withhold the sons from afar because he created them for his _____.
2. Moses compared Israel's time in Egypt with being in an _____ (2 words).
3. Creation was subject to this due to man's fall.
7. 'Whatever the Lord _____, he does'
10. We are as clay in the hands of God who is the divine _____.
11. 'O Lord, you will ordain _____ for us.'
14. The lot may be cast in the lap but its every _____ is from the Lord.
15. God says to Israel that he will give Egypt as their _____.
18. Israel is described as this of God's eye.