The Human Will

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A compilation of E G White comments by C A Murray

Definition

"Pure religion has to do with the will. The will is the governing power in the nature of man, bringing all the other faculties under its sway. The will is not the taste or the inclination but it is the deciding power which works in the children of men unto obedience to God or unto disobedience." 5T 513

Sin

"It is true that Satan is the great originator of sin; yet this does not excuse any man from sinning; for he cannot force men to do evil. He tempts them to do it and makes sin look enticing and pleasant but he has to leave it to their own wills whether they will do it or not. He does not force men to become intoxicated, neither does he force them to remain away from religious meetings but he presents temptations in a manner to allure to evil and man is a free moral agent to accept or refuse" 2T 294

At The Fall

"You need to drink daily at the fountain of truth that you may understand the secret of pleasure and joy in the Lord. But you must remember that your will is the spring of all your actions. This will that forms so important a factor in the character of man was at the Fall given into the control of Satan. He has ever been working in men to will and to do of his own pleasure but to the utter ruin and misery of man. But the infinite sacrifice of God in giving Jesus His beloved Son to become a sacrifice for sin enables Him to say without violating one principle of His government "Yield yourself up to Me give me that will take it from the control of Satan and I will take possession of it then I can work in you to will and to do of My good pleasure When He gives you the mind of Christ your will becomes His will and your character is transformed to be like Christ's character." 5T 515

When Given To Christ

"It is for you to yield up your will to the will of Jesus Christ and as you do this God will immediately take possession and work in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Your whole nature will then be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ and them your thoughts will be subject to Him You cannot control your impulses your emotions and you may desire but you can control your will and you can make an entire change in your life. By yielding up your will to Christ your life will be hid with Christ in God and allied to the power which is above all principalities and powers. You will have strength from God that will hold you fast to His strength and a new Light wven the light of living faith will be possible to you"

"SAY, 'I will believe, I do believe, that God is my Helper' and you will find that you are triumphant in God. By steadfastly keeping the will on the Lord's side every emotion will be brought into captivity to the will of Jesus. You will then find your feet on solid rock. It will take at times every particle of will power which you possess but it is God that is working for you and you will come forth from the molding process a vessel unto honor."

Talk faith. Keep on God's side of the line. Set not your foot on the enemies' side and the Lord will be your Helper. He will do for you that which it is not possible for you to do for yourself. The result will be that you will become like a cedar in Lebanon. Your life will be noble and your works will be wrought in God." 5T 514, 515

Disease

"The power of the will is not valued as it should be. Let the will be kept awake and rightly directed and it will impart energy to the whole being and it will impart energy to the whole being and will be a wonderful aid in the maintenance of health. It is a power also in dealing with disease. Exercised in the right direction it would control the imagination and be a potent means of resisting and overcoming disease of both mind and body. By the exercise of the will power in placing themselves in right relation to life, patients can do much to cooperate with the physician's efforts for their recovery. There are thousands who can recover health if they will. The Lord does not want them to be sick. He desires them to be well and happy and they should make up their minds to be well. Often invalids can resist disease simply by refusing to yield to ailments and settle down in a state of inactivity. Rising above their aches and pains let them engage in useful employment suited to their strength." MH 246

Not Forced

"Christ is ready to set us free from sin but He does not force the will and if by persistent transgression the will itself is wholly bent on evil and we do not desire to be set free, if we will not accept His grace, what more can He do." SC 34

Self Control

"You have but little self control and under excitement frequently say and do things which you afterward regret. You should call a determined will to your aid in the warfare against your own inclinations and propensities

"You need to cultivate self control. The lesson you should have learned in your youth should be mastered now. Discipline yourself to die to self, to bring your will in subjection to the will of Christ." 4T 214, 215

Blood Vessels

"If your mind is impressed and fixed that a bath will injure you, the mental impression is communicated to all the nerves of the body. The nerves control the circulation of the blood; therefore the blood is, through the impression of the mind, confined too the blood vessels and the good effects of the bath are lost. All this is because the blood is prevented by the mind and will from flowing readily and from coming to the surface to stimulate, arouse, and promote the circulation. For instance you are impressed that if you bathe you will become chilly. The brain sends this intelligence to the nerves of the body and the blood vessels held in obedience to your will cannot perform their office and cause a reaction after the bath" 3T 69,70

What It Conquers

You are a young man of intelligence; you desire to make your life such as will fit you for heaven at last. You are often discouraged at finding yourself weak in moral power, in slavery to doubt, and controlled by the habits and custom of your old life in sin You will find your emotional nature emotional nature untrue to yourself, to your best resolutions and to your solemn pledges. Nothing seems real. Your own instability leads you to doubt the sincerity of those who would do you good. The more you struggle in doubt the more unreal everything looks to you, until it seems that there is no solid ground for you anywhere. Your promise are like are like ropes of sand and you regard it in the same unreal light the words and works of those whom you should trust.

You will be in constant peril until you understand the true force of the will. You may believe and promise all things but your promises or your faith are of no value until you put your will on the side of faith and action. If you fight the fight of faith with all your will power, you will conquer. Your feelings, your impressions, your emotions, are not to be trusted, for they are not reliable, especially with your perverted ideas and the knowledge of your broken promises and your forfeited pledges weakens your confidence in yourself and the faith of others in you." 5T 513

Can Control Circumstances

"Many give loose rein to passion, avarice, selfishness and deception and all the time excuse themselves and lay the blame on the circumstances which brought around the trial to themselves. This has been your case. God permitted your surroundings to exist to develop character. But you could have made your surroundings; for by resisting or enduring temptation, circumstances are controlled by the might of the will in the name of Jesus. This is overcoming as Christ overcame. This is the victory that over cometh the world even our faith." 4T 346