

## INTRODUCTION

- \* Knowing God – The Quest ... *And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. (John 17: 3)*
- \* We have considered The Existence and Exclusiveness of God, The Composition of God, The Attributes of God and the Name of God
- \* As we have considered Knowing God, we have considered at times the illustration of the ocean and one's knowledge of the ocean.
- \* Today, we begin to explore a deeper section of the ocean.
- \* The exercise of one's will is directly proportional to the determination of one's desires .... We each have numerous, and sometimes seemingly contradictory, desires
- \* Each time that we make a determination, which is seen as the expression of our will, we are revealing the priority of our desires
- \* Psalms 115:1-3 <sup>1</sup> Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to Your name give glory, because of Your mercy, because of Your truth. <sup>2</sup> Why should the Gentiles say, "So where is their God?" <sup>3</sup> But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.
- \* Psalms 135:5-6 <sup>5</sup> For I know that the LORD is great, and our Lord is above all gods. <sup>6</sup> Whatever the LORD pleases He does, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deep places.

## INSTRUCTION ... Let's consider "The Desires of God"

### I. THE E\_\_\_\_\_ OF HIS DESIRES

#### A. In the New Testament :

##### 1. DEFINITIONS:

- \* βουλομαι - to will; be disposed; be minded .... βουλη – counsel; advice
- \* θελω - to determine, to will, to be inclined; to be disposed .... θελημα – will; desire

##### 2. SCRIPTURES

- a. Boulomai/Boulae specific (cf. I Timothy 2:8; 6:9; Titus 3:8; I Corinthians 12:11; Hebrews 6:17; James 3:4; 4:4; Jude 1:5)
- b. Thelo/Thelema specific (cf. Matthew 5:40-42; 7:12; 8:2-3; 16:24-25; 17:4; 20:13-15; 20:25-27)
- c. Both (cf. John 18:39; Mark 15:9-15; Ephesians 1:11; Romans 9:16-19)

#### B. In The Old Testament

##### 1. DEFINITIONS:

- \* רצוה (ra-tson) – delight; desire; will
- \* כפח (khaphets) - to incline; to bend; to delight; to desire; to will
- \* עצה (etsah; along with ya'ats) – advice; counsel

### II. THE E\_\_\_\_\_ OF HIS DESIRES

#### A. It's Importance to Christ (cf. Matthew 6:9-10; John 4:34; 5:30; Luke 22:42)

#### B. It's Importance to Us (cf. Matthew 12: 48-50; 21:28-31; 7:21; Psalm 40:8; Acts 20:27-32)

### III. THE E\_\_\_\_\_ OF HIS DESIRES

## INTROSPECTION

☞ GOD IS IN HEAVEN; HE DOES WHATEVER HE PLEASURES ... HOW DOES THAT SET WITH YOU?

☞ IS IT YOUR DESIRE TO PERFORM HIS DESIRES?

☞ Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will (thelaema) of God.

☞ ARE YOU WILLING TO BE TRANSFORMED AND "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" IN ORDER THAT YOU MIGHT DISPLAY HIS PERFECT WILL?