

**THE CHURCH UNLEASHED**  
*"Convictions That Lead to Courage"*  
**Acts 21:1-14**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. Where does CONVICTION come from? "Conviction" is a fixed or firm belief!!!
2. **Notice the Apostle Paul's firm conviction.** Read **Acts 21:1-14** (explain)
  - a) **Vs 1-3** We Need Courage that will overcome the **Pressures of Friendships**
  - b) **Vs 4-6** We Need Courage that will overcome the **Predictions of Failure**
  - c) **Vs 7-14** We Need Courage that will overcome the **Prophets of Fear**
3. *"And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, 'Let the will of the Lord be done.'"*
4. Not only do we know that our Sovereign God has a perfect will for us, but we also have infallible information to help us follow His plan.

**SIX DECLARATIONS OF GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE**

**I. DECLARATION #1 - GOD'S WILL FOR YOU LIFE IS THAT YOU BE SAVED**

**A. DELIVERANCE FROM SIN**

1. *1 Timothy 2:1-4*

2. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

**B. SALVATION IS FOR EVERYONE**

1. *John 20:21*

2. EVERY Christ Follower has been commissioned to share the good news of salvation through Christ.

3. *Matthew 28:19-20*

4. *2 Peter 3:9*

5. *Romans 10:13*

6. *"Every Christian should take spiritual inventory regularly by asking himself these questions:*

Bill Bright

a) Is my time being invested where the largest possible number of people are being introduced to Christ?

b) Are my talents being invested to the full so the largest possible number of people are being introduced to Christ?

II. DECLARATION #2 - GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE IS THAT YOU BE SPIRIT-FILLED

1. *Ephesians 5:17-18*

2. "And". Paul is saying in essence that "*getting drunk*" is a prime example of stupidity, and "*being filled with the Spirit*" is a prime example of God's will.

3. "*How do we put ourselves under the Spirit's control?*"

A. CONFESSION OF SIN

1. *1 John 1:9*

2. *John 9:31*

B. YIELDING OURSELVES OVER

1. *Romans 12:1*

C. SATURATING OUR MINDS

1. *Colossians 3:16*

2. *Luke 4:1*

a) "*full of the Spirit*"

b) "*led by the Spirit*"

### III. DECLARATION #3 - GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE IS THAT YOU BE HOLY

#### 1. 1 *Thessalonians 4:3*

a) "For this is the will of God"

b) "your sanctification"

1) means to be "set apart" - or "holy" - dedicated to God

c) "that you abstain from sexual immorality"

1) "sexual immorality" - all sexual relations outside the bond of marriage is sin.

#### 2. 1 *Corinthians 6:19-20*

#### 3. 2 *Timothy 2:22*

### IV. DECLARATION #4 - GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE IS THAT YOU BE GRATEFUL

#### 1. 1 *Thessalonians 5:18*

a) "in all circumstances" - Now that's a tuff one!!!

#### 2. *Ephesians 5:20*

a) "always"

b) "for everything"

### V. DECLARATION #5 - GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE IS THAT YOU SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY

#### A. THE AUTHORITY OF GOVERNMENT

##### 1. 1 *Peter 2:13-15*

2. We are to submit to the laws of the land. Why? To shut the mouths of those who oppose the gospel.

##### 3. *Acts 4:18-20; 5:28-29*

#### B. THE AUTHORITY OF PARENTS

##### 1. *Ephesians 6:1*

**C. THE AUTHORITY OF THE HUSBAND**

1. *Ephesians 5:22-24*

**D. THE AUTHORITY OF EMPLOYERS**

1. *Ephesians 6:5-8*

**E. THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHURCH**

1. *Hebrews 13:17*

**VI. DECLARATION #6 - GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE IS SUFFERING**

1. *1 Peter 3:17*

2. *1 Peter 4:12-16*

3. *Philippians 1:29*

4. *2 Timothy 3:12*

5. If we are traveling along in this life without any resistance from the world then perhaps we are traveling in the same direction.