**R961 Rumination for June 25, 2023**

The **T**heme: **The “I Will’S” of Christ** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: **B***ehold…a leper…worshipped Him, saying,* ***Lord, if Thou wilt****…And Jesus…saying,* ***I will****….* Mt. 8:2-3

The **T**hots:

Intro.: “*I Will*” indicates a **D**eterminate **P**rogramme to carry out or a **D**etermined **P**urpose to **P**erform.

Thus, the Leper believed that Jesus **C**ould and **W**ould heal him and Jesus **C**oncurred that He **W**ould and Did!

Before Jesus left the Earth, He made three significant “I Will” statements that traversed all time, viz.

1. **The Lord’s “*I Will*” of Sending the Holy Spirit – Jn. 16:7**
*Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart,* ***I will send Him unto you.***
2. The **P**romise of the Holy Spirit. As above.
3. The **P**urpose of the Holy Spirit - Jn. 16:8-11
4. *And when* ***H****e is come,* ***He will*** *reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:*
5. *Of sin, because they believe not on Me;*
6. *Of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye see Me no more;*
7. *Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*
8. *Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come,* ***He will*** *guide you into all truth:* Jn. 16:13-15
9. *for* ***He shall*** *not speak of Himself; but whatsoever* ***He shall*** *hear, that* ***shall He*** *speak:*
10. *and* ***He will*** *shew you things to come.*
11. ***He shall*** *glorify Me: for* ***He shall*** *receive of Mine, and* ***shall*** *shew it unto you.*
12. *All things that the Father hath are Mine: therefore said I, that* ***He shall*** *take of Mine,*

*and* ***shall*** *shew it unto you.*

1. The **P**ledge of the Holy Spirit – to indwell every believer. Eph. 1:13, 14, NRSV

*In Him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in Him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of His glory.*

1. **The Lord’s “*I Will*” of Adding to the Church – Matt. 16:18**
*And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock* ***I will build My church****;*

*and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

1. The **A**dding to the Church at **P**entecost: Acts 2:1, 41
*And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*

*Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*

1. The **A**ctivities of the Early Church. Acts 2:42
*They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers*
2. The Continued **A**dding to the Church: Acts 2:47 *And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*
3. **The Lord’s “*I Will*” of Returning for His Own – Jn. 14:3**
4. The **P**reparation:  *I go and prepare a place for you,*
5. The **P**romise: ***I will*** *come again, and receive you unto Myself*
6. The **P**rospect: *that where I am, there ye may be also*
7. The **P**rocess:1 Thes. 4:16-17
*For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel,*

*and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds,*

 ***to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.***

1. **My “*I Will*” to Remember Him.**

Before Jesus left for Heaven, He instituted His Supper for His Own to Remember Him.

When I say, “***I Will***” will it be true and **I will** not forget, and indeed, ***I will*** remember Him come what may!

*According to Thy gracious word, In meek humility,*

*This* ***will I*** *do, my dying Lord,* ***I will*** *remember Thee.*

*Thy body, broken for my sake, My bread from Heaven shall be;*

*The testamental cup I take, And thus remember Thee.*

*Gethsemane can I forget? Or there Thy conflict see,*

*Thine agony, and bloody sweat, And not remember Thee?*

*When to the cross I turn mine eyes, And rest on Calvary,*

*O Lamb of God, my sacrifice! I must remember Thee.*

*Remember Thee, and all Thy pains And all Thy love to me;*

*Yea, while a breath, a pulse remains,* ***Will I*** *remember Thee.*

*And when these failing lips grow dumb And mind and memory flee,*

*When Thou shalt in Thy kingdom come, Jesus, remember me.* James Montgomery,

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 961**

1. In life, it is difficult, or perhaps, it may not even be possible for us to say “*I Will*” with a deep conviction that indeed we will carry out what we say or purpose. Circumstances are such that they may not allow us to do so though at times, we think what we have in mind seems to be so easy to fulfil – indeed there can still be a slip between cup and lip!

Yes, can we ever be sure of the certainty of the “*will*” that we have in mind? Some may be within our power to expedite and execute, but certainly not all! Hence, “will” with us humans can never be a “certainty” no matter how sure we can be of things we mention are, we think, in our power to fulfil.

However, with God or the Lord His “*will*” is as certain as “has already been fulfilled” – whatever He wills will be! Apart from the three major themes of the “Lord’s *I Will*” mentioned in the main body of the Ruminations, there are numerous occasions the Lord’s “*I Will*” is mentioned in scripture. A few are listed below for our assurance:

* [*Ge 28:15*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=50404367) *— And, behold, I am with thee, and* ***will*** *keep thee in all places whither thou goest…for* ***I will*** *not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.*
* [*Dt 31:6*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=50667270) *— Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, He it is that doth go with thee;* ***He will*** *not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*
* [*Dt 31:8*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=50667272) *— And the LORD, He it is that doth go before thee;* ***He will*** *be with thee,*

***He will*** *not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.*

* [*Jos 1:5*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=50725125) *— There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so* ***I will*** *be with thee:* ***I will*** *not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*
* [*1Sa 12:22*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=50924566) *— For* ***the LORD******will*** *not forsake His people for His great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you His people.*
* [*1Ch 28:20*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=51190804) *— David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God,* ***will*** *be with thee; He* ***will*** *not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.*
* [*Isa 41:10*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=51849482) *— Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God:* ***I will*** *strengthen thee; yea,* ***I will*** *help thee; yea,* ***I will*** *uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.*
* [*Isa 41:17*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=51849489) *— When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I* ***the LORD******will*** *hear them,* ***I the God of Israel******will*** *not forsake them*

This week as you go about your duties in life, can any one of the Lord’s *I Will* Promises above be your special Promise for you to Personally want to claim? **REFLECT**

1. In the Book of Psalms, the Psalmist was seen to Promise the Lord in the following areas:
* He will ever **R**emember the Lord in His **W**orks and **W**onders: 77:11

 ***I will*** *remember the works of the LORD: surely* ***I will*** *remember Thy wonders of old.*

* He will **R**ely only on the Strength and **R**ighteousness of the Lord: 71:16

 ***I will*** *go in the strength of the Lord GOD:*

 ***I will*** *make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only.*

* He will **R**ejoice in the Lord and Praise only Him. 86:12

 ***I will*** *praise Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart:*

 *and* ***I will*** *glorify Thy name for evermore.*

***I will*** *sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever:*

*with my mouth* ***will I*** *make known Thy faithfulness to all generations.* 89:1

*While I live* ***will I*** *praise the LORD:*

***I will*** *sing praises unto my God while I have any being.* 146:2

* The Lord will ever be his **R**efuge in Whom is his trust; 91:2

**I *will*** *say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him* ***will I*** *trust.*

*The LORD is on my side;* ***I will*** *not fear: what can man do unto me?* 118:6

* The Lord will ever be His Teacher leading him into paths of truth. 86:11

*Teach me Thy way, O LORD;* ***I will*** *walk in Thy truth:*

***I will*** *hear what God the LORD will speak: for He will speak peace unto His*

*people, and to His saints: but let them not turn again to folly.* 85:8

Which of the above texts can you identify with the Psalmist in his “***I will***”? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** *In the* ***L****ight of the* ***L****ord’s “****I Will’s****” Will you subscribe to Dorus Day’s*

 *famous: Que Sera, Sera (Whatever Will Be Will Be) as true?*