

Why does the bible say that it is God's will that all men be saved?

Some people interpret the bible as teaching “universal salvation”. This means that they believe that every human being will ultimately be saved and that hell is not real but just some sort of illusion or part of some sort of scare tactic.

1. Where is that idea presented?

1 Timothy **2:3-5**

2 Peter **3:9-11**

God does have as His “will” that “all men be saved”. But note that with that idea of salvation is that they come to “the knowledge of the truth” which speaks of Jesus. So this does not mean that God's “will” in this case is something that He will ensure takes place but that He has as His great desire that men come to the knowledge of the truth and recognize the need for Jesus. This goes along with Peter identifying that Jesus has not returned yet nor has God brought time to an end yet because He is waiting until those who will repent and believe have done so.

2. What is meant by “God's will”?

Acts **17:23-31**

Romans **1:9-11**

Romans **8:26-30**

Numbers **23:19-20**

1 Samuel **15:28-29**

John **10:27-29**

One aspect of God's will is God's great longing or desire. It is not an that God will ensure such an activity WILL take place but that He DESIRES for it to take place. But He leaves it in the hands of mankind. Another type of will that God has is what can best be described as His prescribed or ensured will. This will of God WILL come to pass and no one could ever put a stop to it.

3. What do we know about God's ensured will regarding salvation?

John **6:44-45**

John **6:37-38**

Romans **8:38-39**

1 Thessalonians **4:1-3**

It is impossible to come to Jesus apart from the divine work of God. Therefore no one is saved except for the explicit will of God. Because it is the will of God to save, everyone who is drawn to Christ will come to Christ and will receive the gift of eternal life. Once God does a mighty work of salvation in the life of an individual, it is done and complete. It cannot be reversed nor nullified.

4. What is required in order to be saved?

Acts **16:30-31**

Ezekiel **11:17-21**

Matthew **10:17-24**

Luke **13:1-5**

John **14:1-6**

Romans **10:8-13**

Ephesians **1:13-14**

In order to be saved, a person must entrust themselves to the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. This involves God working in the heart of the man in order that he may come to the understanding of his own great sinfulness and justly deserving of God's wrath. His only path of

escaping the wrath of God is to cry out to God for mercy through Jesus Christ. With this comes the presence of the Holy Spirit of God in order to seal an individual for God in the name of Jesus Christ.