

from the dead thru Jesus having taken our sins on Him. But I don't think that's what he means in this verse because he's clearly here talking to Christians. He says to us, Be not unwise but understanding what the will of God is. But he says to us, Awake thou that sleepest and arise from the dead and Christ shall give thee light." In other words, many many Christians are as if they were dead. They are sleeping, they are not accomplishing what God wants them to accomplish. He says, if they will get up, wake from sleep, stand up, Christ will give them light.

So if Christ promises light, there is no excuse for our being unwise and not understanding what the will of the Lord is. The Psalmist says He will lead in every aspect of a person's life. He says, Not a sparrow falls to the ground without our father's understanding. But we know that there is much yet we have to use our brains for. He doesn't guide us like an automaton -- you press a button and it goes this way, press a button and it goes that way. Sometimes you wish He would! You think how much easier it would be. But that's not what He promises. He tells us in Psalms he will guide us with His eye upon us. He wants us to know His will, to understand it, and therefore we shall be able to see what we should do each step of the way.

Decisions vary in importance. Many a man spends hours trying to decide should I be a missionary in Brazil, or should I be a missionary to India? When you get through, in this case it doesn't matter at all. Because he could do a good work in Brazil, and he could do a good work in India! The Lord would use him either place he went. The important thing is that he is doing the will of the Lord. In most cases it doesn't matter where you are, what matters is what you are doing where you are. Now there are some cases where it does matter. There are particular cases where a particular individual is particularly adapted to the needs of a special situation. But those cases are comparatively rare and if they are understanding what the will of the Lord is, we know that God will guide us in those particular situations. It is just as hard to know what the points are at which a decision is important, as it is to know what decision to make. You go to the restaurant and the menu gives us apple pie or lemon pie. Which shall I take? How will I find out what the will of the Lord is? Lemon pie or apple pie? Will in 999 cases out of 1000 it doesn't make the slightest difference, unless you have reason to know that one of them is more healthful for you than the other. It doesn't make the slightest difference in 999 cases out of 1000. But there is one case in which one of these two has some poison in it, has a bad chemical reaction in it, has some germs in it that will kill you. So there are cases where the decision which if I make it may be the most important decision in your whole life! (Laughter)

We cannot tell which are the important decisions but God knows. If we are understanding what the will of the Lord is we can know when we come to those particular turning points He is going to lead us with His eye upon us. So the important thing is not our deciding all these particular details, some of which seem minor, and some of which seem tremendously important, but the important thing is that we be not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is. If we don't he says