

## **“FREE-WILL”**

*By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.*

Some have concluded that mankind does not have any freedom to choose his direction in life. That is, everything has been determined for him/her in his life's journey. Most often, this strange doctrine is tracked to John Calvin (1509-64). He was considered to be a French Theologian. He had several “off the wall” doctrines, which have made their way into many religious groups.

In life, many times daily, a person exercises free will. To illustrate this, I will use the modern day automobile. As one approaches a traffic light at 50 MPH and being a good driver – his eyes constantly move from one mirror to the other. In addition, as he approaches the ever-changing light, one's eyes continue to watch the light. He knows from his traffic experience that a light changes from green to yellow to red. Now, the split second that it changes from green to yellow, he is going to exercise his free will.

Several factors will determine what he will do; 1) Speed he is traveling 2) Actions of other motorists 3) Law Enforcement Officer in view 4) Etc.

Basically, the motorist has two choices: 1) To jump on the brake and stop for the light 2) Goose it and proceed through the yellow light.

Anyone, with an open mind can grasp that each one of us can exercise FREE-WILL and accept God's plan or reject it. II Peter 3:9 “...He (God) is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” NIV

**Plainly, don't get short changed.** Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31)
- 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
- 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37)
- 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
- 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22)
- 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)

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***KYOWVA Evangelistic Association***  
***1541 S. 7th Street \* Ironton, OH 45638***  
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