

OUR GOD IS IN CONTROL - (The Sovereignty Of God)

DEFINING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

SOVEREIGNTY (John Piper)

God has the Power and RIGHT to Govern all things.
God Governs ALL things for His own Wise and Holy Purposes.

SOVEREIGNTY (Westminster Confession)

God Ordains whatever comes to pass.

SOVEREIGNTY (Bill McRae)

God is totally and completely supreme, absolute creator and ruler, the one and only God.

ILLUSTRATING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

1- GOD HAS TOTAL CONTROL OVER THE NATIONS

Daniel 4:34-35 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. [35] All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he PLEASES with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?"

God is in COMPLETE Control

- He does what He WANTS to with Heavenly Powers
- He does as He CHOOSES on Earth
- No one Can STOP Him
- No one Can QUESTION Him

2- GOD'S PURPOSE AND PLAN WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED

Isaiah 55:8-11 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. [9] "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. [10] As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, [11] so is **my word** that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

➔ **These verses Remind us that... God is INFINITE and ...we are NOT**

When God Speaks His...

- plan WILL BE Accomplished
- purpose WILL BE Fulfilled

3- GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER OUR LIVES

Jeremiah 18:3-4 [3] So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. [4] But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

Isaiah 64:8 But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. (ESV)

The Master Potter...

- owns the Clay
- shapes the clay in the way He CHOOSES
- does Not CONSULT the Clay

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

Acts 2:22-24 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— [23] this *Man*, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death. [24] "But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. (NASU)

Sovereignty and Responsibility

- God's PLAN was for Jesus to DIE
- Jewish leaders DEMANDED Jesus' Death
- Roman Soldiers nailed Him to a Cross

RESPONDING TO GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

Genesis 50:20-21 You intended to harm me, **but God** intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. [21] So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

God did all of this as Part of His Sovereign Plan...

- to Shape and Form Joseph into a Godly man
- to Continue to cause Israel to Grow and Prosper and become a Nation

SO WHAT?? (What do we learn from this)

Jeremiah 29:10-13 This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. [11] For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. [12] Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. [13] You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

To Believe GOD is Sovereign each day...

- we SUBMITS to His Will
- we REAFFIRMS His Goodness
- we COMMIT ourselves to Obeying Him