



God's Sovereignty & Man's Responsibility

A side study from Gen. 3:15-16

Guide Posts of Truth

- 1) God is not the **author** of sin. (1 John 2:16, I John 1:5)
- 2) God does not **tempt** anyone to sin. (James 1:13)
- 3) Man is **responsible** for his own sin. (James 1:14)
- 4) God is utterly **sovereign** in all things. (Is. 46:9-10; Eph. 1:11)
- 5) God does not **change**. (James 1:17, Hebrews 13:8)

Observe:

Genesis 50:20 - _____

Exodus 7:3, 8:15, 9:16, 14:8 - _____

I Samuel 16:14 - _____

I Samuel 18:10 - _____

II Samuel 24:1,10 - _____

I Kings 22:19-23 - _____

Job 1 & 2 - _____

Acts 4:25b-28 - _____

How do we respond to God's sovereignty?

(Romans 9:19-21; Hebrews 6:17-20)

- 1) Bow to Him as Lord.
- 2) Worship Him as Creator and Savior.
- 3) Rejoice that His promises to His saints are secure!!!!
- 4) Remember that it's all about God's glory! (Rom. 11:36)

Exposition of Genesis
Hilltown Baptist Church
Early Church Sunday School Class
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The Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689
(Rewritten In Modern English)

CHAPTER 3 - GOD'S DECREE

1) FROM all eternity God decreed all that should happen in time, and this He did freely and unalterably, consulting only His own wise and holy will. Yet in so doing He does not become in any sense the author of sin, nor does He share responsibility for sin with sinners. Neither, by reason of His decree, is the will of any creature whom He has made violated; nor is the free working of second causes put aside; rather is it established. In all these matters the divine wisdom appears, as also does God's power and faithfulness in effecting that which He has purposed.

Num. 23:19; Isa. 46:10; John 19:11; Acts 4:27,28; Rom. 9:15,18;
Eph. 1:3-5,11; Heb. 6:17; Jas. 1:13; 1 John 1:5.

2) God's decree is not based upon His foreknowledge that, under certain conditions, certain happenings will take place, but is independent of all such foreknowledge.

Acts 15:18; Rom. 9:11,13,16,18.

CHAPTER 5 - DIVINE PROVIDENCE

1) GOD who, in infinite power and wisdom, has created all things, upholds, directs, controls and governs them, both animate and inanimate, great and small, by a providence supremely wise and holy, and in accordance with His infallible foreknowledge and the free and immutable decisions of His will. He fulfills the purposes for which He created them, so that His wisdom, power and justice, together with His infinite goodness and mercy, might be praised and glorified.

Job 38:11; Ps. 135:6; Isa. 46:10,11; Matt. 10:29-31; Eph. 1:11; Heb. 1:3.

2) Nothing happens by chance or outside the sphere of God's providence. As God is the First Cause of all events, they happen immutably and infallibly according to His foreknowledge and decree, to which they stand related. Yet by His providence God so controls them, that second causes, operating either as fixed laws, or freely, or in dependence upon other causes, play their part in bringing them about.

Gen. 8:22; Prov. 16:33; Acts 2:23.

3) Ordinarily, in His providence, God makes use of means; yet He is free to work without them, to give them efficacy above what they normally possess, and even to work contrary to them, at His pleasure.

Isa. 55:10,11; Dan. 3:27; Hos. 1:7; Acts 27:31,44; Rom. 4:19-21.

4) God's almighty power, unsearchable wisdom, and infinite goodness are so far-reaching and all-pervading, that both the fall of the first man into sin, and all other sinful actions of angels and men, proceed according to His sovereign purposes. It is not that He gives His bare permission, for in a variety of ways He wisely and powerfully limits, orders and governs sinful actions, so that they effect His holy designs. Yet the sinfulness involved in the actions proceeds only from angels and men and not from God who, being most holy and righteous, neither is nor can be the author or approver of sin.

Gen. 50:20; 2 Sam. 24:1; 2 Kings 19:28; 1 Chron. 21:1; Ps. 50:21; 76:10;
Isa. 10:6,7,12; Rom. 11:32-34; 1 John 2:16.