



God is Sovereign

Acts 4: 23 When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,…”

Revelation 6: 9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. 10 They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”

No doctrine is more despised by the natural mind than the truth that God is absolutely sovereign. Human pride loathes the suggestion that God orders everything, controls everything, rules over everything. The carnal mind, burning with enmity against God, abhors the biblical teaching that nothing comes to pass except according to His eternal decrees. Most of all, the flesh hates the notion that salvation is entirely God’s work. If God chose who would be saved, and if His choice was settled before the foundation of the world, then believers deserve no credit for their salvation. – John MacArthur
<http://www.gty.org/resources/articles/A167/gods-absolute-sovereignty>

I believe this is the worst doctrine in the church today. I know that this is a shocking statement and is near blasphemy to some people, but the way sovereignty” is taught today is a real faith killer. The belief that God controls everything that happens to us is one of the devil’s biggest inroads into our lives. If this belief is true, then our actions are irrelevant, and our efforts are meaningless. What will be will be. If we believe that God wills everything, good or bad, to happen to us, it gives us some temporary relief from confusion and condemnation, but in the long-term, it slanders God, hinders our trust in God, and leads to passiveness. – Andrew Womack
http://www.awmi.net/reading/teaching-articles/sovereignty_god/

- The word “sovereign” is not used in the King James Version of the Bible.
- It is used 303 times in the Old Testament of the New International Version, but it is always used in association with the word “LORD” and is the equivalent of the King James Version’s “LORD God.”
- The KJV translates Strongs G1203 [NT] in the following manner: Lord (5x), master (5x).
- Not a single one of those times is the word “sovereign” used in the manner that it has come to be used in religion in our day and time.

Religion has resulted in the invention of a new meaning for the word “sovereign,” which basically means God controls everything.
Nothing can happen but what He wills or allows.
However, there is nothing in the actual definition that states that.

The dictionary defines “sovereign” as:

1. Paramount; supreme.
2. Having supreme rank or power.
3. Independent: a sovereign state.
4. Excellent.”

Is God’s Will Being Accomplished?

It is assumed that since God is paramount or supreme that nothing can happen without His approval.

2 Peter 3: 8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

He doesn’t will anyone into hell. He paid for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2; 1 Tim. 4:10), but we must choose to put our faith in Christ and receive His salvation.

People are the ones choosing hell by not choosing Jesus as their Savior. It is the free will of man that damns them, not God.

People virtually have to climb over the roadblocks that God puts in their way to continue on their course to hell. The cross of Christ and the drawing power of the Holy Spirit are obstacles that every sinner encounters. No one will ever stand before God and be able to fault Him for withholding the opportunity to be saved. The Lord woos every person to Him, but we have to cooperate. Ultimately, the Lord simply enforces the consequences of people’s own choices. – Andrew Womack

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God has a perfect plan for every person’s life

Jer. 29:10 “For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. 11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

But He doesn’t make us walk that path. We are free moral agents with the ability to choose. He has told us what the right choices are, but He doesn’t make those choices for us. God gave us the power to control our destinies.

Deuteronomy 30:19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,

“Sovereignty” teaching says that “God is the pilot you are just a passenger”

That would be great wouldn't it? But then why are we judged by where the plane goes?

In reality,

- God gives you a plane.
- He teaches you to fly it.
- He puts fuel in it.
- He gives you the coordinates of His desired destination for you.
- He gives you feedback and helpful hints during your travel.
- If you experience technical difficulty or mechanical failure along the way, He's your midair mechanic.
- And when you reach your destination He will welcome you home and critique you on how you followed His directions

But you are the pilot!!

Do We Bear the Responsibility of How We Live Our Lives?

You bet we do!!

If God is causing everything that happens in your life, happen, then why are you responsible for what happens?!?!?

Man has been given the authority over his own life, but he must have the Lord's direction to succeed.

God created us to be dependent upon Him and our independence is at the root of all our problems.

Religion doesn't help by teaching us that all our problems are actually blessings from God. That is a faith killer. It makes people totally passive.

Satan is the one who brings evil into this world.

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Acts 10: 37 you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

God is Sovereign

God is also good.

All things “good” come from God.

Jesus was the “Full” expression of the Father and He went about doing good.

devil = oppression , stealing , killing , destroying

God (Jesus) = good , healing , life , life more abundantly

*James 1:16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the **word of truth**, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.*

Why does it say “Do not be deceived?”

Because some will try to deceive you and say that things that are not good come from God.

James says that there is “no variation or shadow” of the light.

Light is Light Darkness is Darkness

The two are clearly defined

Adam’s sin brought the authority of the devil into this world. That authority has brought destruction, death, and decay.

Jesus’ obedience brought His authority back into the world. That authority has brought with it Life, Love, and redemption!

Galatians 3: 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” 12 But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Because God is sovereign - We have been redeemed and have received the “blessing of Abraham!”

Deuteronomy 28:1 “And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. 2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God. 3 Blessed shall you be ...