



What is God's Sovereignty and how is it manifested to us?

Read – Revelation Ch 4 v 1 – 11

The focus of God being Sovereign over His creation is based on the idea that because God is the creator of all He has absolute right to rule over all. God exercises this right in every aspect of His creation.

Scripture teaches that God is sovereign over His creation – 1 Chronicles Ch 29 v 10 – 13,

Ezekiel Ch 18 v 1 – 4, Daniel Ch 4 v 24 – 25 Nothing can stand up to Him, or defy Him. God has an eternal plan for whole of creation. The very essence of the world's existence and why it was created is found within this plan.

The bible makes clear that what God has made He both sustains, keeps together and rules over to achieve His eternal purpose and plan. By an act of continual action God keeps together the properties and powers of His creation. Creation is not self existent or self sustaining but God continually acts to keep into existence that which He has created.

God is not seen in anyway as a spectator of creation but the bible teaches that he uses everything to achieve His eternal purpose and plan to why He created in the first place. He rules over and exercises His sovereign control over His creation. The creator and owner of creation governs His own possession.

God is in perpetual motion making all events moment by moment in the realms of physical, mental, spiritual and moral work out His purposes, original plan and design for creation.

What does God rule over?

Physical and Spiritual world:- God controls the physical world He has created., the elements, sun, wind, lightening, rain, thunder, waters, hail, ice, snow, are all subject to His bidding. The heavenly bodies such as the sun, stars obey His will. Nothing Created exists out of his will or design.

Over plants and animal Kingdom:- Every living thing is given life and sustained by God. He holds the life of every living thing in His hands and provides for it., plants, fowl, beasts. Psalm 104 v 21, 27, Matt ch 6 v 26, ch10 v 29, **Job 12 v 7 – 10**

*Over all areas of a person's existence:-*Bible makes it clear that every aspect and footstep that we take is under God's divine will and influence. Our birth, life, career, death all our governed by God's Sovereign will.

Involved with us before we are born - Read Psalm 139 v 1 – 16, Jeremiah Ch 1 v 5

Works His purposes out in our lives – 1 Samuel Ch 16 v 1 Galatians Ch 1 v 15 –16

Does this whether we accept His will or recognise it or not – **Read Isaiah 45 v 4 – 12**

God provides for a person's needs – Matt Ch 5 v 45, Ch6 v 25 – 32 Acts 14 v 17

Involved in the very thinking processes of a person – Proverbs Ch 21 v 1

Determines the time and circumstances of a person's death - Deuteronomy Ch 32 v 48 – 50, John Ch 21 v 18 – 19, 2

Timothy Ch 4 v 6 – 8

God rules over the Nations and uses them for His common purposes Psalm 22 v 28, Job Ch 12 v 23 - 24, Psalm 66 v 5 – 7, Psalm 75 v 6 – 8.

Uses Nations to exercise His will Isaiah Ch 7 v 7 – 9 , Isaiah Ch 10 v 5– 15, Ch 45 v 1 – 7

What about Problems Like evil, suffering, sin?

Sin – God has established Laws which govern sin and disobedience just as He has established laws to govern physical world. When people sin do not do so on own terms but sin according to God's law – in other words God defines what sin is and what punishment will accompanies it.

Evil – Evil is evil and cannot be good, but God takes the evil that we do and incorporates it into His plan so that His eternal plans are still ultimately fulfilled. God takes the worst human beings can do and brings out the best He can do.

Sometimes He allows evil to work it's purposes out – Sometimes He directs it – other times He limits it – or prevents it all together. God uses the elements of good, neutral, unqualified evil and accomplishes His own good ends

Suffering – Again God works out His own Good will through the process of suffering. No suffering on this earth is wasted if it is given to God.

Uses it for discipline

Correct those who have wandered astray

Instruct others

Teach Refine

Mature us and encourage our faith.

God is in absolute control of His creation. He is almighty, All knowing, All present God who actively shapes and defines this world to work out His eternal purpose and Plan!!