

Basic Christianity – 6 “Sovereignty”

Main text: Psalm 145:1-3 (KJV)

I. Introduction

A. God and all His attributes are infinite and unsearchable

(Job 5:8-9 / Psalm 145:3-6 / Romans 11:33-36 / Ephesians 3:8)

However, He takes pleasure and delights in us searching and Him revealing His true nature and personhood

(John 17:3 – eternal life within knowing God)

(I Corinthians 2:8-14 – the Spirit revealing God)

B. God has made Himself known through creation, the Scriptures and His Son Jesus.

C. On this eternal journey and discovering of His greatness, He is to be greatly praised.

(Psalm 21:1 / Psalm 48:1 / Psalm 96:4 / Psalm 145:3)

II. One of God’s many attributes revealed in creation / Scriptures and His Son Jesus is His Sovereignty.

A. Sovereign = God can do whatever He wills

NOTE: No attribute of God is ever suspended at the exercise of another. All attributes work simultaneously and in perfect harmony with God Himself.

* There is never a conflict between God’s attributes.

* All God does comes out of His Being.

* All acts of God agree perfectly with all God is

Example 1 – Justice and mercy do not cancel one another out. They work in perfect harmony in God.

Example 2 – His goodness and compassion do not cancel out holiness.

Example 3 – His wrath is perfect wrath that comes out of His Love.

B. God’s sovereignty works in perfect, beautiful harmony with all other attributes.

God’s sovereignty works in perfect harmony with His goodness, righteousness and Covenant promises. (His Word)

- Cannot do evil

- Cannot sin

- Cannot lie

C. God in His sovereignty has sovereignly chosen for man to have “free will” or “choice” concerning good and evil and allows man to exercise that will with the promise of consequences, both temporal and eternal.

Example – Adam and Eve – “free will” = freedom of choice, but not without consequences or provisions and redemption provided.

* God sovereignly worked within their free will, never violating theirs OR His.

* Revelation 13:8 – “... Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”

- * Man's sovereignty never violates God's, but rather, fulfills it.
 - * God overrides man's free will or honors man's free will in final judgment (with no appeals court)
 - Man chooses (good or evil) and God honors choice
 - If man receives His love and grace – eternal life
 - If man rejects His love and grace – eternal death
 - If man loves darkness (outer darkness)
 - If man repents of darkness (abides in and with uncreated light)
- “If men love darkness and rebel at the light, they choose outer darkness.”

“If we really do not have ‘free will,’ then we are all pawns on the chessboard of life and cannot be held accountable for any decisions made.”

Romans 8:28-30 (KJV) “foreknew” – predestinated – to what?
 “conformed into the image of His Dear Son.”

A. God Who is all-knowing (omniscient) knows the choices I will make, both good and bad, and has chosen to work in those decisions His good pleasure and eternal purpose for my good.

All things are not good > God works all things together for good
 All things are not God > FOR WHO? Those who love Him and are called according to His purpose

B. God throughout time, as we know it, has worked His eternal purposes, while never violating man's free will!

C. Knowing we (the church) would receive His Love, seek and receive His Grace, God would bring beauty out of ashes and singing out of mourning (Isaiah 61:3)

II Samuel 11 and 12 (David and Bathsheba)

Matthew 1:5-6 (KJV) (NLT)

(vs. 16 ancestors of Jesus through Joseph)

God sovereignly worked, through repentant men and women, His good pleasure and eternal, redemptive purposes.