

Sovereignty and Sin 2022-06-12

Romans 9:17.....TOPICAL MESSAGE!

For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

God's sovereignty is His exercise of rule over His creation. *The Triune God*

- Whether God permits or causes a thing directly, He wills it because He allows it to happen when could stop it or brings it about Himself.
 - God sovereign over all things including evil to fulfill His purposes for His glory and our good.

Absolutely nothing outside God's sovereign control, including Satan/evil. *Job 1:12, 2:10, Proverbs 16:4, Psalm 76:10*

- If evil came although God not want it to (omnipotent?), couldn't more unintended evil come and how would He triumph over it?
 - How can we believe turn for good if He is not in control in 1st place?
- God clearly willing to let Satan exist, otherwise He would destroy him.
 - Satan is real but not ultimate and can only do what God permits.

Everything God does, from creation to end of time, He does for His glory. *Romans 9:17, 22-23, Ephesians 1:11-12, Habakkuk 2:14,*

- Somehow glory of Jesus Christ is seen more magnificently in the world with Satan and evil than if Satan/evil were destroyed immediately.
 - Darker it is, the brighter the light seems to shine.

God does not just watch evil events unfold with no design or purpose and then bring good out of them. *Genesis 50:20, Isaiah 46:9-11, Acts 4:27-28, Spurgeon*

- for His glory God ordains evil to fulfill His purposes that include:
 - discipline/sanctify Christian, bring lost to repentance, judge sinners,
 - God uses evil to bring about good purposes but never allow his children to. Parent use sharp knife but not allow child to use it

Examples of God's providential use of evil for His ultimate good purposes are numerous.

- Joseph, Job, Jonah, Paul, crucifixion.

God uses evil for His purposes but He never does evil, causes evil, takes pleasure in evil or is to blame for it. *James 1:13-14, Matthew 18:7, Calvin*

- In a way not understood and not revealed to us, God ordains evil be done through secondary causes; humans, fallen angels
 - We willingly choose to do evil and then are responsible for it. Next week

Evil/sin comes forth differently than holiness/obedience. *Romans 7:18-19, Galatians 5:16-17*

- God brings about obedience by positive influence.
 - Holy Spirit enables us to do good and walk in obedience.
- Reasonable to believe sin arises from withholding of His action.

- God permit man's natural tendencies to reassert selves and then we willingly do what comes naturally...."choose" to sin.
 - preserving His holy and our individual responsibility for sin.

God is sovereign over all things including evil to fulfill His purposes for His glory and our good. *Daniel 4:34-35, Isaiah 43:7*

- "I can't understand this doctrine fully." True about every doctrine.
 - Do know: God is supreme, sovereign, omnipotent, wise, merciful, LOVING and absolutely reliable to fulfill His promises for future.
 - can do infinitely more than finite minds think possible.

"Providence says, Whatever God ordains, must be; but the wisdom of God never ordains anything without a purpose. Everything in this world is working for some great end." Spurgeon

"Through the bad wills of evil men God fulfills what He righteously wills." John Calvin