

May 20, 2018

God's sovereignty has ever appeared to me a great part of his glory. It has often been my delight to approach God, and adore him as a sovereign God. - **Jonathan Edwards**

Daily Readings Bible Readings for this Week

Sun.	2 Chronicles 30-32	Thurs.	Ezra 4-6
Mon.	2 Chronicles 33-34	Fri.	Ezra 7-9
Tues.	2 Chron.25-Ezra1	Sat.	Ezra 10-Nehemiah 2
Wed.	Ezra 2-3	Sun.	Nehemiah 3-5

Nursery This Week:

AM – Allison Loges PM – Ruth White/Donna Puckett
WED – Nancy Lowery

Cleaning This Week: Patty Baker

“The Sweet Pillow of God’s Sovereignty”

Aaron Miller

The doctrine of God’s unchanging sovereignty is one of the most comforting doctrines of the Christian faith. It is a soft pillow upon which the believer may rest his or her weary head. It humbles us in good seasons, furnishes hope in hard seasons, and strengthens our joy in all seasons.

God’s sovereignty may be defined as God’s power to keep all things under control. To say that God is sovereign is to say that He reigns supreme over the universe that He has made. A.W. Pink defines it this way: *The sovereignty of God may be defined as the exercise of his supremacy. Being infinitely elevated above the highest creature, He is the Most High, Lord of heaven and earth. Subject to none, influenced by none, absolutely independent; God does as He pleases, and only as He pleases as he pleases* (see Psalm 115:3).

The God Who Reigns

In short, to say that God is sovereign is to say that God is God. He rightfully reigns over all things as the One Being in all the universe who is supreme in power and authority.

Psalm 95:1-2 communicates this truth this way: *The Lord reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath*

girded himself: the world also is established, that it cannot be moved. Thy throne is established of old: thou art from everlasting.

Areas of Divine Sovereignty

But how far does this sovereignty extend? Is there some area over which God is not sovereign? Abraham Kuyper answers that question for us: *There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: "mine!"*

Psalms 33 is a good exposition of God's absolute and unbounded reign over all things.

- Verses 6-9 – God is sovereign over **creation**. He created all things, governs all things, and all things exist for His glory.
- Verses 10-11 – God's sovereignty governs **history and providence**. Rather than creating the universe and then setting it in its own independent motion, God orders and directs human affairs. In all circumstances, God is at work for His glory and the good of His people (Romans 8:28)
- Verses 12-22 - God is sovereign over the **salvation** of His elect. According to Ephesians 1:3-7, God's predestination of people for salvation is based on His eternal purposes, not on foreseen human actions or decisions.

A Sweet Pillow

The sovereignty of God is a sweet pillow that you can lay your head on at night. It is a beautiful truth not only that God is in control over all, but is also working everything out – both good and bad (cf. Gen. 50:20).

Charles Spurgeon says it best: *There is no attribute more comforting to His children than that of God's sovereignty. Under the most adverse circumstances, in the most severe trials, they believe that Sovereignty has ordained their afflictions, that Sovereignty overrules them, and that Sovereignty will sanctify them. There is nothing for which the children ought more earnestly to contend than the doctrine of their Master over all creation – the Kingship of God over all the works of His own hands – the Throne of God and His right to sit upon that throne . . . It is God upon the throne that we love to preach. It is God upon the throne whom we trust.*

Theological Term of the Week – Monergism

Monergism – From Greek *Mono* (one or alone). Theologically, it is the philosophy or faith that God saves alone and completely apart from any cooperative human effort, not denying human submission or obedience, but asserting that those functions are effects of grace, not its' causes.

God's Chosen Instrument

Pastor Don Fortner

There was no power in Elisha's dead bones to give life (2 Kings 13:21); but God made it an instrument by which He gave life. And there is no power in the most faithful gospel preacher to give life to anyone. But God has ordained by the foolishness of preaching to save His elect. — "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." — Three lessons:

1. Be sure you do not despise the preaching of the gospel but seize and treasure every opportunity to hear the message by which God may communicate life to your needy soul.
2. Do everything you can to get sinners under the sound of the gospel. God may be pleased to give life to those you bring to hear the gospel of Christ.
3. God often uses the labors of His people for the furtherance of the gospel long after they have left this world, just as He used Elisha's dead bones to communicate life to that dead man touched by them.

From Whence This Fear and Unbelief?

Augustus Toplady

From whence this fear and unbelief? Hath not the Father put to grief
His spotless Son for me?
And will the righteous Judge of men, Condemn me for that debt of sin
Which, Lord, was charged on thee?

If thou hast my discharge procured, And freely in my place endured
The whole of wrath divine,
Payment God cannot twice demand—First at my bleeding Surety's hand,
And then again at mine.

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Morning Worship
	6:00PM	Evening Worship
Wednesday	7:00PM	Midweek Bible Study

Sermons from the pulpit of Twinbrook Hills Baptist Church are available at sermonaudio.com or you can request a free CD from the sound booth.

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