



*God Is Government  
Isaiah 33:22  
“For the LORD is our judge, the  
LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD  
is our king; he will save us.”*

## THE SOVEREIGNTY OF MANKIND

### PART THREE

In Parts One and Two we tackled mankind’s sovereignty from the perspective of what would be the Will of God and God showing His sovereignty in giving the land of Canaan to Abraham. When we looked at Genesis 15 we found some hidden treasures about a particular prophecy about Yitzhak Rabin. But the question from that study is who is responsible for the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin? If God decreed that Rabin be killed, should Yigal Amir have been held responsible for shooting him? Wasn’t the Prime Minister’s death predestined? If God decreed it, apparently because of Rabin’s rejection of God’s promise to Abraham, then is the young man who shot Rabin guilty? Amir considered the assassination his own idea, done of his own initiative. Who is responsible for Rabin’s death – Amir or God?



#### **Was Judas Guilty?**

God is sovereign over all things. James 1:13 tells us that God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt any man. Yet we are told in 1 Peter 1:20 and Revelation 1:3-8 that God decreed from the beginning of the world that His Son would die for our sins. Jesus did not deserve to die. We deserved to die, yet God arranged from before Creation that Jesus would be sacrificed. This means that somebody had to do the brutal job of slaying Him, the very King of Glory. Are they guilty who put Jesus to death, when God had already foreshadowed it would be done?

What about Judas? In Psalm 41:9-10 we read:

*Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me. But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.*

This verse is widely recognized as a prophecy of Jesus’ betrayal by Judas. It was prophesied that Jesus would be betrayed and would be made a sacrifice for sins, but Jesus says in Luke 22:22, “*And truly the Son*

*of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!*“ In John 13:27 Jesus tells Judas *“And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.”* It was Judas who had purposed in his heart to betray his friend and Lord.

How do we handle this issue correctly?

Here is a question. Where is Judas today? He is in Hell. It is in the Scripture. Jesus calls him the “son of perdition” in John 17:12. Judas betrayal was foretold, but Judas himself made the decision to give Satan a handhold in his life and to betray the Messiah.

We have libraries filled with discourses on the sovereignty of God the Creator. We don’t really have a problem with God’s power and control over the world. The thing that gives us trouble is a different one – it is the sovereignty of mankind. I have not read any good books on the sovereignty of mankind, which is why I am addressing it within this subject matter. God has given us an amazing gift in the form of our free will, but the level of responsibility is actually quite frightening.

Judas had a choice. He didn’t have to betray Jesus Christ. We can speculate that if he didn’t do it, somebody else would have. However, perhaps the prophecy would not have existed in the first place if Judas wasn’t going to commit the betrayal. Either way, Judas had a choice, and he made it. His final decision was prophesied in advance, but Judas was held accountable.

This makes the assassin Yigal Amir who assassinated Yitzhak Rabin accountable for his own actions as well. So, even if prophecy dictates a killing does not mean the person who does that in time should not be held accountable for the action. We each have been given free will. Therefore, the choices we make have consequences. Take this one step further. Our choices to not obey God in all His rules, regulations, laws, and commandments have consequences that lead to the loss of all of God’s blessings in our life. Think about that – you have sovereignty – but are you willing to be responsible for the choice you make? Would it not be better to turn our individual sovereignty back to God to have Him direct our path never having to deal with any consequence.