

Ouestion of God's Will.

THE SOVEEIGNTY OF MANKIND PART ONE

We are going to venture out from historical subjects previously written about to one of mankind's sovereignty. This is a subject that preachers, teachers and theologians have problems speaking about and seldom does it come up individually with our world governments. At the heart of mankind was God's gift of sovereignty and freedom. However, with the elite programming control over education this subject has been taken out of the educational setting for all to learn its meaning, its purpose and the right of mankind to have at the core of life freedom. In this Part One we will address **The**

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." – Hebrews 11:3

God formed man out of the dust of the ground, and He created woman from the flesh of man's side – the spiritual essence of man. We might not appreciate how personal that is. God merely speaks and worlds flash into being. God doesn't have to form things using physical hands that mold and shape. In His immense authority over all that is. He simply speaks and the universe comes into existence. Yet, the LORD God took the time to form human beings, fashioning us in His image (Adam was the only one in the image of God. The human race is made in the image of Adam). and breathing into us the breath of life.

The Bible teaches us that God is all-powerful and there is nothing He cannot do. His arm is not too short to save us. Psalm 147:4 tells us "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names." Think of giant like VY Canis Majoris, a red supergiant with a radius 1400 times larger than the radius of our Sun. Think of the multitude of stars, the billions upon billions of them stretching deep into the universe. God can do anything He likes. Yet, when He made humankind in His image, He did something special with us. He created beings, who like God Himself, have the ability to think, imagine, and create.

"Thy will be done," Jesus taught His disciples to pray. How strange. Isn't God's will always done? We need to think, "Of course it is. He's God!" Yet, there are verses in the Bible that suggest that the God of Eternity does not always get His way. That might seem a bizarre thought, but it's also true. We don't have to pray for the water cycle to take place or for Earth to stay in place. Day and night, summer and winter will continue to the end of time, whether we like it or not. Those are a done deal. However, we know there are cases in which God wants something he doesn't get.

Consider this verse:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." -2 Peter 3:9

Why does God have to be longsuffering? God should not have to suffer at all, yet He waits with patience for those who will come to Him to be saved. Do all come to repentance? We know they don't. John 3:16 tells us Christ died for the sins of the world, yet there will be human beings needlessly punished with satan and his angels. Our sins were paid for, but some people do not repent of their sins.

Isn't that God's will? Isn't that what He Wants? The answer is positively, NO! He pleaded with Israel through Ezekiel long ago.

"Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?" - Ezekiel 18:23

"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" – Ezekiel 33:11

We all know about the sovereignty of God. God has the right and the power to do whatever He wants. However, we find a strange thing about God's creation; He has purposely made beings with the ability to make decisions that are contrary to His will. That is astonishing to think about, but the Bible clearly holds us

responsible for whether or not we obey Him. When God made Adam in His image, He gave him sovereignty of his own.

We find a strange paradox in Scripture. On the one hand, we know that those os us that are in Christ were chosen and called by God. Yet, we also are told we have a choice to walk through His door or not.

"4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will," – Ephesians 1:4-5

"I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." – John 10:9

God has declared in detail the responsibilities He desires of His people, and the Bibke lays out just how He is to be worshiped. I see books written about sovereignty of God. I think the troublesome problems isn't the sovereignty of God. Even in our relatively naïve horizons, we can grant His authority and power. The real dilemma we wrestle with is the sovereignty of mankind. We find a basic paradox that seems to have gone on from the beginning – predestination versus free will.

The children have a riddle. Where does the gorilla sleep in the forest? The answer is: Anywhere he wants to. Like that gorilla, God can do whatever He desires. In His sovereignty He has chosen to give us autonomy, and He doesn't appear to take that from us. Our spirits are subject to us.

How do we resolve this paradox? God has given us one of His greatest treasures, namely His Word. As jealous as He is of His name, He values His Word even above His name.

"The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law." – Deuteronomy 29:29

In these documents, we are going to explore what the Bible says about this paradox. We are going to hunt down answers to the fundamental questions about salvation and our own particular part in the process of our own sovereignty.