

The Absolute Sovereignty of God

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The absolute sovereignty of God means that God, as the Supreme Being, has an all-inclusive, eternal plan or purpose, that everything that happens in time is in fulfillment of this eternal plan, and that this eternal plan will be completely fulfilled without fail. It means that God has predetermined all things, that all things happen for a purpose, and that there is no such thing as chance, happenstance, fate, or luck. It means that God is accountable or answerable to and under the control of no one, and that everyone is accountable to Him and under His control. It means that God always does what He pleases, to whom He pleases, when He pleases, where He pleases, how He pleases. The absolute sovereignty of God is taught throughout the Holy Bible.

- God is the great, powerful, glorious, victorious, majestic, exalted kingly Head above all. He owns everything and everyone that is in heaven and on earth and can do with them whatsoever He chooses (I Chron. 29:11).

1 Chronicles 29:11 (KJV) *Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.*

- God reigns over all in power and might and is the source of riches, honor, greatness, and strength (I Chron. 29:12).

1 Chronicles 29:12 (KJV) *Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.*

- God holds the soul of every living thing and the breath of all mankind in His hand and can do with them whatsoever He chooses (Job 12:9-10).

Job 12:9-10 (KJV) *Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this? **10** In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.*

- God has self-determined, triumphant, singleness of purpose, does whatsoever His soul desires, and performs whatsoever He has decreed (Job 23:13-14).

Job 23:13-14 (KJV) *But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? and what his soul desireth, even that he doeth. **14** For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him.*

a. God knows everything and is able to do everything (Job 42:1-2; Mat. 19:26; Lk. 1:37).

- God is the Governor among the nations, and all other governors are accountable to Him and under His control (Ps. 22:28).

Psalms 22:28 (KJV) *For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he is the governor among the nations.*

- God brings the counsel of the heathen to nought, makes the devices of the people of none effect, and causes His counsel to stand forever (Ps. 33:8-12).

Psalms 33:8-12 (KJV) *Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. **9** For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. **10** The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. **11** The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. **12** Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.*

- *God's throne is above all and His kingdom rules over all.* (Psa. 103:19)

Psalm 103:19 (KJV) *The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.*

- God controls the hearts, attitudes, actions, reactions, and interactions of all people (Ps. 105:24-25).

Psalm 105:24-25 (KJV) *And he increased his people greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies. 25 He turned their heart to hate his people, to deal subtilly with his servants.*

- God makes His people willing to do His will (Ps. 110:3; Phil. 2:13).

Psalm 110:3 (KJV) *Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.*

Philippians 2:13 (KJV) *For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*

- God is in the heavens above and He does whatsoever He pleases (Ps. 115:3).

Psalm 115:3 (KJV) *But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.*

- God does whatsoever He pleases in heaven, in earth, in the seas, and in all deep places (Ps. 135:6).

Psalm 135:6 (KJV) *Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.*

- God controls man's heart and tongue (Prov. 16:1).

Proverbs 16:1 (KJV) *The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.*

- God directs man's steps (Prov. 16:9; Jer. 10:23).

Proverbs 16:9 (KJV) *A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.*

Jeremiah 10:23 (KJV) *O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.*

- God determines the outcome of every situation (Prov. 16:33).
Proverbs 16:33 (KJV) *The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.*
- God's counsel always stands or prevails in spite of man's many devices (Prov. 19:21).
Proverbs 19:21 (KJV) *There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.*
- God determines and directs man's goings (Prov. 20:24).
Proverbs 20:24 (KJV) *Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?*
- God holds in His hand and completely controls the king's heart (Prov. 21:1).
Proverbs 21:1 (KJV) *The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.*
- God brings to pass whatsoever He has purposed, and His purpose stands or prevails without ever being disannulled or turned back (Isa. 14:24-27).
Isaiah 14:24-27 (KJV) *The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand: **25** That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders. **26** This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that*

*is stretched out upon all the nations. **27** For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?*

- God forms the light and creates darkness, makes peace and creates evil, and is not accountable or answerable to man for any of His actions (Isa. 45:5-9).

- **Isaiah 45:5-9 (KJV)** *I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: **6** That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. **7** I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things. **8** Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it. **9** Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?*

- God's counsel or pleasure includes all past, present, and future events and is accomplished without fail or without His purpose being thwarted or defeated (Isa. 46:9-10).

Isaiah 46:9-10 (KJV) *Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, **10** Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:*

- God's Word accomplishes His purpose or pleasure every time it goes forth and never returns to Him void (Isa. 55:6-11).

Isaiah 55:6-11 (KJV) *Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: **7** Let the wicked forsake his way, and*

*the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. **8** For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. **9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. **10** For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: **11** So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

- God brings all things to pass, whether they be good or evil (Lam. 3:37-38).

Lamentations 3:37-38 (KJV) *Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not? **38** Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil and good?*

- God owns all human souls and can do with them whatsoever He chooses (Ezek. 18:4).

Ezekiel 18:4 (KJV) *Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.*

- God's will of purpose is done without fail in heaven and on earth, and He is not accountable or answerable to anyone for any of His actions (Dan. 4:34-35).

Daniel 4:34-35 (KJV) *And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: **35** And all the*

inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

- God is ultimately responsible for everything that happens, whether it be good or evil (Amos 3:6).

Amos 3:6 (KJV) *Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it?*

- God controls even the falling to the ground of the insignificant sparrow (Mat. 10:29-30).

Matthew 10:29-30 (KJV) *Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. **30** But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*

- God controls even the wicked and uses them as instruments to carry out His purpose (Jn. 19:10-11).

John 19:10-11 (KJV) *Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? **11** Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.*

- God purposed or decreed the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 2:22-24; 4:26-28).

Acts 2:22-24 (KJV) *Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: **23** Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have*

crucified and slain: **24** Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 4:26-28 (KJV) *The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. **27** For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, **28** For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.*

- God chooses and rejects whomsoever He pleases (Rom. 9:9-14).

Romans 9:9-14 (KJV) *For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son. **10** And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; **11** (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) **12** It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. **13** As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. **14** What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.*

- God has mercy on whom He will have mercy, and does not have mercy on whom He will not have mercy (Rom. 9:15-18).

Romans 9:15-18 (KJV) *For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. **16** So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. **17** For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. **18** Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.*

- God's will of purpose has never and will never be successfully resisted by anyone at all (Rom. 9:19).

Romans 9:19 (KJV) *Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?*

- God works all things after the counsel of His own will of purpose (Eph. 1:11).

Ephesians 1:11 (KJV) In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

a. God created all things for the fulfillment of His pleasure or purpose (Rev. 4:11).

- God created all things for the fulfillment of His pleasure or purpose (Rev. 4:11).

Revelation 4:11 (KJV) *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*