

Trusting God for His Sovereignty

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 10:29-31.

B. God is absolutely sovereign over every detail of His universe and Jesus states in the passage above that that knowledge should keep us from being afraid.

1. God is in control of every event in our lives.
2. Often, the events of our lives are calculated to make us afraid and we are fearful because we don't see the way out.
3. There is nothing that happens in your life that God does not either cause or permit to happen.

II. There are three concepts involved in the sovereignty of God in scripture.

A. God has the ability to do whatever He wishes to do. (Daniel 4:35)

B. God can keep anything from happening that is not within His will. (James 4:13-15)

C. God has a right to do as He wills. He also takes responsibility for what happens in His universe. (Romans 9:20-21)

1. He is in control of death and life, poverty and wealth, sickness and health, success and failures. (Exodus 4:11-12; 1 Samuel 2:6-7; Isaiah 45:7; Job 1:21)

a) Before Satan can touch any person, he has to get God's permission.

b) God does not give that permission unless it will have some benefit for you in the long run. (Lamentations 3:37-38)

1) We ascribe good things to God's providence, but often we don't want to ascribe bad things to God's providence because we don't want to blame God.

2) God takes responsibility for both and we lose a lot of comfort when we don't let Him take responsibility.

2. We think of the events of our life as short moments, but some of the "events" of our lives last for a long time. God is in control of those, too.

III. God is not only sovereign, but also loving and wise.

IV. The sovereignty of God does not exclude us from having free moral wills.

A. We can make choices- everyday choices, choices to sin, etc.

B. God allows us to sin and He holds us responsible because we freely chose sin. However, He also controls our sin so that it accomplishes His purposes. (Genesis 50:18-20; Acts 2:22-23, 4:27-28)

Application questions:

1. How does God's sovereignty take away fear?

2. Why does God have a right to do as He pleases with your life?

3. Why is it difficult to trust God's sovereignty?
