

**Title**  
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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 in times of adversity.

1. There is nothing that happens in your life that God does not either cause or permit to happen.

II. There are three elements 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. We should live life aware of the fact that our intentions for the future are under 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; Job 1:21; Isaiah 45:7)

2. The reason that we can trust God in His sovereignty is because He also fully good and wise.

3. 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.

4. God takes responsibility for both. (Lamentations 3:37-38)

a) Before Satan can touch any person, he has to get God's permission. God does not give that permission unless it will have some benefit for you in the long run.

5. We lose a lot of comfort when we don't allow God to take responsibility for the bad things that happen in our lives.

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

A. God allows us to sin and He holds us responsible because we freely chose sin.

B. He also controls our sin so that it accomplishes His purposes. Our sin cannot thwart His purposes for our lives and the world. (Genesis 50:20; Acts 2:22-23, 4:27-28)

**Application questions:**

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

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

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

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