

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

March 26. 2017

1. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S DELEGATED WORLD RULE

RULER OF THIS WORLD John 12:31, John 14:30; John 16:11; *GOD OF THIS AGE* 2 Corinthians 4:4

PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR Ephesians 2:2

SATAN'S ATTEMPT TO HAVE JESUS WORSHIP HIM—CALL HIM SOVEREIGN Luke 4:5-7

GOD, NOT SATAN IS SOVEREIGN Daniel 2:20-21; Daniel 4:17

The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes. Proverbs 21:1

See also Psalm 2:1-4; Psalm 33:10-11

GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER THE NATIONS, THEIR RULERS, AND ALL THE SATANIC POWER BEHIND THEM

2. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S ANGELS (DEMONS, EVIL SPIRITS).

So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine."

Matthew 8:31 (NKJV)

You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!

James 2:19 (NKJV)

And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight.

Luke 7:21 (NKJV)

See also Matthew 10:1; Daniel 10:13; Matthew 8:29-32; Mark 1:27

AS FOR CHRIST, EVEN THOUGH THEY SLAY HIM, THEY MUST ALWAYS OBEY HIM! GOD IS SOVEREIGN

3. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S HAND IN PERSECUTION

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

⁹ *Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*

1 Peter 5:8-9 (NKJV)

See also Luke 22:3; Luke 22:31; Luke 22:52-53; John 10:18; Acts 2:23-24

4. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S LIFE-TAKING POWER

SATAN IS A MURDERER--John 8:44

GOD IS THE LORD OF LIFE AND DEATH. NONE LIVE AND NONE DIE, BUT BY GOD'S SOVEREIGN DECREE

See also Revelation 2:10; Deuteronomy 32:39; 1 Samuel 2:6; James 4:13-16

If the Lord wills, we will live. And if He doesn't, we will die. God, not Satan, makes the final call. Our lives are in His hands ultimately, not Satan's. God is sovereign over Satan's life-taking power.

5. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S HAND IN NATURAL DISASTERS Job 1:6-22

SATAN'S LEASH WAS LOOSENEED

JOB'S FOCUS Job 1:20-21

THERE IS MORE SECURITY, MORE RELIEF, MORE HOPE, MORE SUPPORT, AND MORE GLORIOUS TRUTH IN DESPISING SATAN'S HATEFUL HAND AND LOOKING STRAIGHT PAST HIM TO GOD FOR THE CAUSE AND FOR HIS MERCY

Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

Mark 4:39 (NKJV)

6. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S SICKNESS-CAUSING POWER.

"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

Acts 10:38 (NKJV)

Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath and responds to the criticism of the synagogue ruler, "So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound--think of it--for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" **Luke 13:16 (NKJV)**

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. **Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV)**

But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips. **Job 2:10 (NKJV)**

7. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S USE OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS.

Satan as a lion—I **Peter 5:8**; A great dragon –**Revelation 12:9**; The serpent of old—**Genesis 3**

"The Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah" **Jonah 1:17**

"The Lord spoke to the fish and it vomited Jonah out." **Jonah 2:10**

"The Lord God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah." **Jonah 4:6**

"But God appointed a worm when dawn came the next day and it attacked the plant and it withered" **Johan 4:7**

Fish, plant, worm — all appointed, all obedient. Satan can have a hand here, but it is not sovereign. God is.

8. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S TEMPTATIONS TO SIN

MUCH OF OUR SUFFERING COMES FROM THE SINS OF OTHERS AGAINST US AND FROM OUR OWN SINS

SATAN IS THE TEMPTER **Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5**

Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." **Matthew 4:3 (NKJV)**

For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain. **1 Thessalonians 3:5 (NKJV)**

SINS MISERIES ORIGIN **Genesis 3:14-19; Romans 8:21-23**

Satan is not sovereign in the temptations of Judas or Peter or you or those you love. God is.

9. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S MIND-BLINDING POWER.

Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. **Romans 1:16 (NKJV)**

Whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. **2 Corinthians 4:4 (NKJV)**

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. **2 Corinthians 4:6 (NKJV)**

10. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER SATAN'S SPIRITUAL BONDAGE.

SATAN ENSLAVES PEOPLE IN TWO WAYS. ONE WITH MISERY AND SUFFERING, BY MAKING US THINK THERE IS NO GOOD GOD WORTH TRUSTING. THE OTHER IS WITH PLEASURE, AND PROSPERITY MAKING US THINK WE HAVE ALL WE NEED SO THAT GOD IS IRRELEVANT

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,²⁶ and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26

Adapted from Chapter one of Suffering and the Sovereignty of God by John Piper