

# SOVEREIGNTY EXPLAINED

## FEBRUARY 17, 2021

### NUMBERS 23:19

Sovereign is defined by many as meaning God is in control of everything, everywhere, all the time. He can do what He wants, when He wants, how He wants, no matter what. Is this what sovereign really means? Does it mean nothing happens without God willing it to happen? This sounds good, but it's the reason why many people secretly hate God. (The woman who lost her baby and was told by ministers that God needed her baby in heaven.) She was told nothing happens outside of God's plan.

- Sovereign defined: **1.** Paramount, supreme. **2.** Having supreme rank or power. **3.** Independent. **4.** Excellent.
- None of these definitions state God controls everything.
- God is supreme, powerful, independent and excellent. He doesn't need permission to do what He wants to do.
- Does this mean God controls everything? No! Our text says God can't lie.

### HEBREWS 6:18, TITUS 1:2

When a sovereign God makes a promise, it's impossible for Him to go back on His Word. He is bound to make good on every promise He makes.

- He set limitations for Himself. (Noah)
- He can't change. **HEBREWS 13:8, MALACHI 3:6**
- God allows us to choose. **DEUTERONOMY 30:19** Just because someone chooses death and evil doesn't mean God planned or willed it. God said to choose life.
- If God was in control of us, His will would always be done. "Thy will be done" would be unnecessary.
- God's will doesn't always happen. **2 PETER 3:9** Do people perish? Yes. Is that God's will? No. Therefore, things happen that are not God's will. **EZEKIEL 33:11**
- Everything happens for a reason! **1 PETER 5:8-9** But that reason is not always what God wants.

### GALATIANS 6:7

We all have free will. If we sow wrong things, we can expect to reap wrong things. Apple seeds produce apple trees.

- With every action, there is a reaction. If you smoke 10 packs of cigarettes a day and get lung cancer, was that God being in control? Did God control you to smoke?
- God's plan is for good things. **JEREMIAH 29:11, JAMES 1:17**
- God has made a way for us to overcome. **1 JOHN 5:4, LUKE 10:19** We must use our faith and God given authority.

## WHY THIS VIEW IS IMPORTANT

1. If I believe God wills my problem, my faith is compromised. Why stand against what God wills?
2. It identifies the real problem causer. **ACTS 10:38**
3. It anchors my soul. **HEBREWS 6:12-19**