

INTRODUCTION

Theopedia.com states that *“the Sovereignty of God is the biblical teaching that all things are under God's rule and control, and that nothing happens without His direction or permission.”* Theological Charles Spurgeon said, *“Cheer up, Christian! Things are not left to chance: no blind fate rules the world. God hath purposes, and those purposes are fulfilled. God hath plans, and those plans are wise, and never can be dislocated.”*

However, many times God's sovereignty (and His goodness) are questioned because of the evil in the world. What does the Bible say about God's sovereignty?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read the following passages and share with your group what you learn about God's sovereignty:

1 Chronicles 29:11 _____

Job 42:2 _____

Psalms 115:3 _____

Isaiah 46:10 _____

Daniel 4:34-35 _____

Acts 17:24 _____

Romans 9:19-21 _____

1 Timothy 6:15-16 _____

Revelation 4:9-11 _____

2. If we truly believe God is sovereign, why do we often try to control our own lives? How would your life be different if you trusted more fully in His absolute control?
3. What causes you to question God's sovereignty?
4. Read Genesis 50:15-21. What did Joseph believe about God that gave him the ability to forgive his brothers and see that God used for good what his brothers meant for evil?
5. What difficult circumstances have you had that God has used for His good purposes?
6. Read Job 1:6-12. Who brought Job to Satan's attention? Since God knows all things, He knew what Satan's response would be. Does this affect your view of God?

Study Questions for Community Groups

7. What does our response to the previous question indicate about our belief in God's sovereignty and goodness? Is there comfort in knowing that He is in control in the midst of our suffering?

APPLICATION

Meditate on Romans 11:33-36 (below), and worship Him (Job 1:20-22) as you reflect on His sovereignty.

SCRIPTURE

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?" For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 11:33-36 (NIV)