

SOVEREIGNTY EXPLAINED – 2
FEBRUARY 21, 2021

REVIEW:

- Erroneous: God controls everything, all the time.
- Dictionary: supreme, powerful, independent, excellent.
- In His sovereignty, God established boundaries for angels, man, Himself and nature.
JEREMIAH 5:20-22 (NLT)
- The creator has the right to govern His creation.

CONTINUE: JOHN 8:31-32

1. Having an improper view of God's sovereignty creates:
 - A. Confusion. **ISAIAH 5:20 (NLT)** Why go to a doctor or take medicine if God controls sickness? Are catastrophic events really acts of God?
 - B. Distance. Who would want to draw close to a God who is the author of destruction?
MATTHEW 7:9-11
 - C. Victims. If God is the cause of bad things, we're all victims of His destructive ways. To escape, He'd have to change. **MALACHI 3:6** God never changes!
 - D. Theological contradictions. **MATTHEW 6:10** If God controls everything, nothing can happen outside His will. How could anything bad happen? We should always be blessed.
 - E. A distorted view of God. **JOHN 1:18 (AMPC) 14:9** God isn't controlling, manipulative, humiliating or demoralizing. He's loving, compassionate, merciful and forgiving.
2. What the bible teaches.
 - A. **PSALMS 115:3 (NASB)** God does what He pleases.
 - B. **GENESIS 1:26-28 (NLT)** Giving man dominion pleased Him.
 - C. **PSALMS 8:4-6 (NLT)** All creation is under man's authority.
 - D. **PSALMS 115:16 (NLT)** God exercised His sovereign will.
 - E. **GENESIS 2:15-17** God's boundary was clearly stated.
3. God is not the only force at work in the earth.
 - A. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:4** – Satan is at work.
 - B. **ROMANS 8:20-21** Creation is subject to storms, earthquakes, and natural disasters because of the fall.
 - C. **GENESIS 4:8** Man is a force at work also.
4. God's promises establish His personal boundaries.
 - A. **PSALMS 89:34-37 (NLT)** God limited Himself.
 - B. **NUMBERS 23:8, 19-20** God can't lie.
5. God's will can be disregarded.
 - A. **2 PETER 3:9** If sovereignty means control, all should be saved. **ACTS 26:28** Agrippa controlled his destiny.
6. We all must choose.
 - A. **DEUTERONOMY 30:19 (NLT)** If we have a choice, then God isn't controlling us.
JAMES 4:7 If we can resist or submit, the choice is ours, not God's.

CONCLUSION:

Sovereignty does mean God can do what He wants, when He wants, if He wants, how He wants. So He wanted to establish boundaries for everyone and everything He created. He also established boundaries for Himself so man would be able to trust Him. **HEBREWS 6:17-19 (NLT)**

- **2 CORINTHIANS 1:20 (NIV)** His promises are guaranteed.
- **MALACHI 2:5** His goal is to give life and peace.