

Trusting God: His Sovereignty

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I. Introduction.

A. Life is difficult and unexpected. We are often tempted to ask where God is.

B. In order to trust God, we must know these three things about Him: He is sovereign, He is all wise, and that He perfectly loving toward us.

II. God's sovereignty is universal and absolute. (Matthew 10:29; Proverbs 21:30)

A. God is not frustrated by our pain or by the evil in the world.

B. God has a moral will which is revealed to us in Scripture and He allows people to act contrary to that will.

C. God has a sovereign will over the events and affairs of man that He chooses not to reveal to us. We cannot act in contrary to the sovereign will of God. (Lamentations 3:37-38)

1. God either initiates or permits both the bad and the good things in our lives.

2. There is no detail of your life that is insignificant to your Father. He leaves nothing to chance. (Isaiah 5:26ff)

D. God's sovereignty is not always apparent. God often works behind the scenes. (Daniel 4:35)

E. The Bible states that although God is sovereign, we are moral beings who are responsible for our choices, even though God influences those choices. (Proverbs 21:1; Exodus 3:21, 12:33-36)

Application questions:

1. Why is it necessary according to this message to believe that God is sovereign in order to trust Him?

2. Why might the knowledge that God has either initiated or allowed the bad things in our lives inspire trust instead of mistrust?

3. How do you wrestle with the idea that God is sovereign and that man is responsible?
