

WHO IS GOD?

HIS SOVEREIGNTY

Part Five

September 4, 2019

1 God is in charge! As I have often quoted: *God can do*
2 *anything He wants...with or to anyone He chooses...anytime,*
3 *anywhere, as long as what He does is consistent with His divine*
4 *nature.*

5
6 What is it that has given so many saints through the ages the
7 courage to believe in God's faithfulness? I believe it has been
8 their staunch commitment to God's sovereignty, that is, that He
9 would do the right thing at the right time, according to His
10 standard. That He was always in charge in good times and
11 bad.

12
13 What gave Daniel the faith to enter the lions' den, seemingly at
14 the prospect of possible death? It was his faith that God was in
15 charge, a faith vindicated in the early morning when answering
16 to the King: Daniel 6:21-22 (insert text) *Then said Daniel*
17 *unto the king, O king, live forever. {22} My God hath sent his*
18 *angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths and they have not hurt*
19 *me for as much as before Him innocency was found in me, and*
20 *also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.* Daniel was
21 confident in God's commitment to him. He trusted in God's
22 sovereignty.

23

1 Daniel's faith is like that of saints today who believe in God's
2 commitment to His Word, to His divine nature. But there lies
3 the key: to His WORD! Where do we learn more about
4 Him, enabling us to trust? His Word! There is no shortcut in
5 this process!

6
7 Some years ago, a very precious friend of ours, a lady married
8 to a rather well-known pastor, entered a courtroom where he
9 was on trial for fraud. She said her embarrassment knew no
10 bounds and she didn't know how she could go through with the
11 ordeal facing her. Then, she said, she remembered the words of
12 an old, old hymn, written almost 250 years ago by an unknown
13 poet. Those words sustained her! The song, "How firm a
14 foundation!" The anointed lyrics speak from the heart of a
15 person who is convinced of the sovereignty of God to the point
16 where she lives by that very faith. I give you all the verses:

17
18 *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,*
19 *Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word.*
20 *What more can He say than to you He hath said,*
21 *You who unto Jesus for refuge have fled.*

22
23 That stanza is a surprise for those who continually look for
24 some "new thing - some new word" from God. Everything
25 God wants you to know about Himself or victorious life is
26 carefully laid out ALREADY in His Word, the sacred
27 Scriptures. When you hear someone claim that he or she has a
28 "new word" from God, RUN! Rev. 22:19 *And if any man*
29 *shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy,*

1 *God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of*
2 *the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

3
4 Next verse:

5
6 In every condition, in sickness, in health,
7 In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth;
8 At home and abroad, on the land, or by sea
9 As thy days may demand shall thy strength ever be.

10
11 Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
12 For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
13 I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
14 Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

15
16 When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
17 The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow
18 For I will be with thee, they troubles to bless,
19 And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

20
21 When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
22 My grace, all sufficient shall be thy supply
23 The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design
24 Thy dross to consume and thy good to refine.

25
26 Even down to old age all my people shall prove
27 My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love.
28 And when hoary hairs shall thy temple adorn,
29 Like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

1 The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
2 I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
3 That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake,
4 I'll never, no never, no never for sake.

5
6 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD MEANS THAT AS RULER
7 OF THE UNIVERSE GOD IS FREE AND HAS THE RIGHT
8 TO DO WHATEVER HE WANTS. HE IS BOUND BY
9 NOTHING OTHER THAN HIS OWN DIVINE NATURE
10 AND SEEKS THE BEST INTEREST OF HIS CREATION,
11 MANKIND.

12
13 Isaiah 46:9-11

14 *Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there*
15 *is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, [10]*
16 *Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times*
17 *the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand,*
18 *and I will do all my pleasure: [11] Calling a ravenous bird from*
19 *the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country:*
20 *yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have*
21 *purposed it, I will also do it.*

22
23 Psalm 115:3

24 *But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he*
25 *hath pleased.*

26
27 Daniel 4:35

28 *And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing:*
29 *and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and*

1 *among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand,*
2 *or say unto him, What doest thou?*

3

4 **Romans 9:20**

5 *Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God?*
6 *Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou*
7 *made me thus?*

8

9 One of the most dramatic portions of Scripture is found in the
10 book of Job. Job, the faithful man of God, in his suffering
11 dared tell God that perhaps He could have done a better job
12 taking care of him and his family. To which, God replied:
13 **Job 38:4-41**

14 *Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?*
15 *declare, if thou hast understanding. [5] Who hath laid the*
16 *measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the*
17 *line upon it? [6] Whereupon are the foundations thereof*
18 *fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; [7] When the*
19 *morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for*
20 *joy? [8] Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth,*
21 *as if it had issued out of the womb? [9] When I made the cloud*
22 *the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it,*
23 *[10] And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and*
24 *doors, [11] And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further:*
25 *and here shall thy proud waves be stayed? [12] Hast thou*
26 *commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the*
27 *dayspring to know his place; [13] That it might take hold of the*
28 *ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it?*
29 *[14] It is turned as clay to the seal; and they stand as a*

1 *garment. [15] And from the wicked their light is withholden,*
2 *and the high arm shall be broken. [16] Hast thou entered into*
3 *the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the*
4 *depth? [17] Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or*
5 *hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? [18] Hast thou*
6 *perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it*
7 *all. [19] Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for*
8 *darkness, where is the place thereof, [20] That thou shouldest*
9 *take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the*
10 *paths to the house thereof? [21] Knowest thou it, because thou*
11 *wast then born? or because the number of thy days is great?*
12 *[22] Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast*
13 *thou seen the treasures of the hail, [23] Which I have reserved*
14 *against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?*
15 *[24] By what way is the light parted, which scattereth the east*
16 *wind upon the earth? [25] Who hath divided a watercourse for*
17 *the overflowing of waters, or a way for the lightning of thunder;*
18 *[26] To cause it to rain on the earth, where no man is; on the*
19 *wilderness, wherein there is no man; [27] To satisfy the*
20 *desolate and waste ground; and to cause the bud of the tender*
21 *herb to spring forth? [28] Hath the rain a father? or who hath*
22 *begotten the drops of dew? [29] Out of whose womb came the*
23 *ice? and the hoary frost of heaven, who hath gendered it? [30]*
24 *The waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is*
25 *frozen. [31] Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or*
26 *loose the bands of Orion? [32] Canst thou bring forth*
27 *Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his*
28 *sons? [33] Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? canst thou*
29 *set the dominion thereof in the earth? [34] Canst thou lift up thy*

1 *voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee?*
2 *[35] Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto*
3 *thee, Here we are? [36] Who hath put wisdom in the inward*
4 *parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart? [37] Who*
5 *can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles*
6 *of heaven, [38] When the dust groweth into hardness, and the*
7 *clods cleave fast together? [39] Wilt thou hunt the prey for the*
8 *lion? or fill the appetite of the young lions, [40] When they*
9 *couch in their dens, and abide in the covert to lie in wait? [41]*
10 *Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry*
11 *unto God, they wander for lack of meat.*

12

13 Job had enormous nerve to challenge God on His wisdom and
14 His sovereignty. And God answered him soundly. Yet today
15 we will confront God and flaunt what we think is superior
16 wisdom.

17

18 I have seen far too many once-strong believers lose their faith
19 by impudent challenge to God when their lives have hit a snag.
20 As I mentioned to you last week, a nurse in the hospital, a
21 believer herself, asked me, “Do you blame God for your
22 stroke?” That impudent thought never entered my mind. Her
23 follow-up question: “Are you mad at God? He could have
24 kept the stroke from happening.” Job’s response: “Though
25 God slay me, yet will I trust Him!” That should always be our
26 response to such queries.

27

28

29

1 following Jesus, one day at a time!” That’s the schedule for
2 sure – one day at a time.

3
4 Our confidence in Him is based upon the solid fact of His
5 sovereignty, that He is always right, that His Word is sure .
6 And He has our best interest at heart:

7
8 Isaiah 55:8-9

9 *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways*
10 *my ways, saith the Lord.*

11 *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways*
12 *higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

13 *[10] For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven,*
14 *and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it*
15 *bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and*
16 *bread to the eater:*

17
18 I am still old fashioned, I guess, in that I still carry an up to date
19 Atlas map book in my car. I want to know where I am at all
20 times without having to work an iPhone gizmo. That’s the
21 way the Word of God is to me. He keeps me where I should be
22 if I listen to Him...if I heed and obey His counsel.

23
24 **GOD IS SOVEREIGN!**