

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 3 - Part 1

GOD THE FATHER

God is sovereign

1. Who is sovereign?

In what three ways do we see His sovereignty?

- As the Creator of all things, He _____ all things.
- He has the _____ to rule all things.
- God uses His _____ in the world today.

2. God is sovereign. We see this:

- As the Creator of all things, He owns all things.
- He has the absolute right to rule all things.
- God uses His authority in the world today.



In this lesson we want to see God's sovereignty -

- in keeping all things together.
- in caring for and controlling all things.

Have you ever wondered why the sun stays up in the sky or why we never fall into space? The world is round. When we are on top, the people on the other side of the world are down, but no one falls into space.

Who do you think keeps everything from falling?

3. You may have answered in different ways. Let us look at what the Bible says.

Nehemiah 9:6

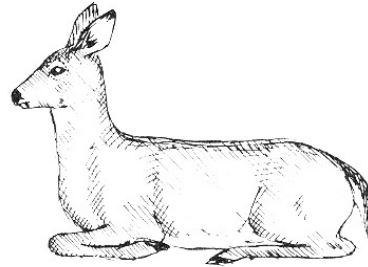
You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

Colossians 1:17

He (Christ) is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Who holds all things together?

4. Christ holds all things together. Christ is the Son of God. We do not worry about the sun falling down or rising and setting at strange times. These all stay in their place because God through Christ holds them together.



Psalm 36:6

O LORD, you preserve both man and beast.

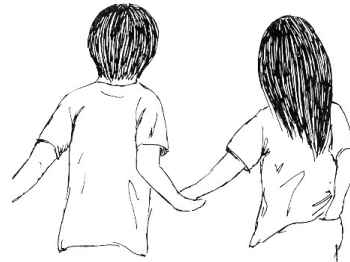
Who takes care of people and animals?

5. God takes care of people and animals. God takes care of people every day, not just once in awhile.

Psalm 66:8,9

Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

God takes care of the world and animals.



Who else does God take care of?

6. God takes care of people. He keeps them in good times and in hard times.

Psalm 121:3,7,8

*He will not let your foot slip - he who watches over you will not slumber;
The LORD will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life; The
LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.*

What does God do for people?

7. God takes care of people, day and night, and all through life. He takes special care of those who follow Christ.

John 10:28,29

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

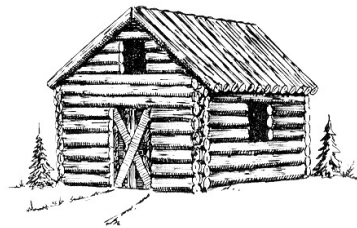
What is one way in which we see God's sovereignty?

8. God takes care of people. No one can snatch them out of His hand. We see God's sovereignty in that He keeps all things together. He holds the world together. He takes care of the animals. He takes care of people and especially those who follow Christ.

We also see God's sovereignty in caring for and controlling all things.

When a man plans to build a house, he first makes a plan for the house. He plans how big he wants to build it. He plans whether he wants to use logs, boards, or bricks. He doesn't build the roof first, or set up the doors. He starts to build from the foundation. When the house is finished, it has a foundation, walls, doors, windows, and a roof. It is a complete house.

God also has plans for this world. He laid the foundation when He created the world and all things in it. He is working out His plans and when they are finished, it will be said, "You do all things well."



Revelation 4:11

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

Hebrews 3:4

For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.

Who is the builder of everything?

9. God is the builder of everything. He also controls everything.

Job 9:7

He speaks to the sun and it does not shine;....

Job 37:10

The breath of God produces ice, ...

Job 38:25

Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain, and a path for the thunderstorm.

Psalms 104:14

He makes grass grow for the cattle, ...

Who controls the sun, rain, and grass?

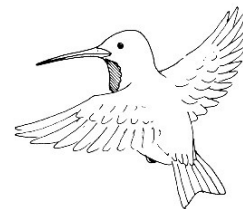
10. God controls the sun, rain, and grass. He sends the rain and lightning where He chooses to send it.

Job 12:10

In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

Matthew 6:26

Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?



Who takes care of and controls the animals and birds?

11. God takes care of and controls the animals and birds. But people are more important to God than animals.

Psalm 139:16

Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained (planned) for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Jeremiah 1:5

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.

Who has a plan for every person's life?

12. God has a plan for every person's life. People can follow God's plan or they can go their own way. God in a special way blesses and loves those who obey Him.

John 14:23,24

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me."

Do people have to obey God?

13. Talk about this with two or three other people.

Not all people obey God. These people miss out on God's blessing. God will still do what He has planned to do.

Proverbs 16:1-4

To man belong the plans of the heart, but from the LORD comes the reply of the tongue. All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD. Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. The LORD works out everything for his own ends - even the wicked for a day of disaster.

God is sovereign. We see this in that He holds all things together. How else do we see that God is sovereign?

14. We see that God is sovereign in the way He takes care of and controls all things. He takes care of and controls the world, the animals, and people.

Which of these has a free choice - the world, the animals, or people?

15. People have a free choice. They can obey God or they can disobey God. But people have to give account or tell God why they chose to do what they did.

Romans 14:12

So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Because people can choose what they want to do, what will they have to do?

16. They will have to tell God why they did what they did.

Psalm 19:13

Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression (sin).

Matthew 6:13

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

God can keep us from sinning when we ask Him for help. He knows what our hearts are like. He knows if we want to obey Him or not.

As sovereign God, what can He do for us?

17. God is sovereign and He can deliver us from sin. But He lets people choose the way they want to go. God wants people to find His perfect plan for their lives and be happy. If a person does not want to go God's way, sometimes God puts no hindrances in his way of sin. God may not stop him from going on in sin.

Psalm 81:11,12

But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices.

Yet in all this, God only lets evil go so far.

2 Peter 2:9

If this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment.

As Sovereign God, what can He do for us?

18. God is sovereign, He takes care of us, and can deliver us from sin. God has control over the world, animals, people, and also over evil.

19. We see that God is sovereign -

- in keeping
- in for and all things.

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT GOD AND JESUS CHRIST by Helen Pope.
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