

GOD IS SOVEREIGN

(Not entirely original with me)

Deuteronomy 4:39; 32:39-40; Job 12:9-10, 16-17; 33:13; Jeremiah 18:6; Daniel 4:3, 35; Nahum 1:3

Introduction: Among Christians there is no question that God is the highest, the most, that He is sovereign. However among other religions, God is just another god or that God is made up of more than one gods. For some God is limited in knowledge, skills, abilities, power and other things. Many think of God in terms of their own human reasoning and experience. Sadly, some who have never had a loving father cannot understand that God is a loving Father and those who cannot forgive, have trouble with understanding that God forgives. Whatever man thinks about God, nothing can change the fact that God is sovereign, He is the highest and there is none equal to Him.

I. GOD IS THE HIGHEST, HE IS SOVEREIGN

1. To say that God is sovereign is to say that He is supreme over all things.
 - Lord over creation and there is nothing out of His control.
 - Every creature on earth, in heaven and in hell will one day bow the knee and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord...*(Philippians 2:10)*
2. To say that God is sovereign is to say that He has absolute freedom to do all that He wills to do.
 - He can do anything and has the freedom to do as He pleases, everywhere and forever.
 - Of all the people on earth who should be at rest and peace in today's world, it should be Christians.
3. It means that God is free to carry out His eternal purposes to their very end.
 - God works according to plans which He made in Christ Jesus before the sun, moon, stars and Adam were made.
 - God's eternal purposes will never change.
4. It means that God has all authority and power.
 - To be Almighty Sovereign God, then He must have absolute authority and power.
 - There have been many "religions" through the centuries that have had their own "gods" who created this and that (sun, moon, stars, life, etc.).
 - However *"...by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by Him and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist..." (Colossians 1:16-17)*
 - *"...In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth..." (Genesis 1:1)*
5. When God laid the plans for heaven and earth and the creation of mankind, He knew about sin and what it would do to mankind

II. MAN HAS FREE WILL EVEN THOUGH GOD IS SOVEREIGN

1. God is in control of everything and He planned everything from the beginning.
 - Man's free will means that he/she can, at anytime he/she wants, make any choice he/she pleases, even when that choice defies the purposes of God and goes against the will of God.
2. Some believe that God planned everything from the beginning and that some people would be saved and some would not, that Jesus Christ died for those who would be saved but didn't die for the others who would not be saved.
3. However there are others (including myself) that believe that Jesus Christ died for all mankind and that every person is free to make his/her own choice.

4. God is absolutely free to do anything He wants or wills to do, anywhere, anytime, forever and mankind is free to make any choice he/she wants, even if it is against God' will.
 - Among the things God is pleased to do is to give US the freedom to do as WE please and when people do as they please, they are fulfilling the will of God for God has given mankind the freedom of choice.
5. God has put decision making into the hands of every human being thus freeing humanity to make its own choices.
 - In a way it is like God telling mankind, "I have set you out on a sea from your birth and you are going to eventually land at a place called death, but until then you are free to do whatever you want but remember you will give an account to ME for what you've done.
 - People brag about being "free" to do whatever they want and accountable to no one, however God has said that every person will one day stand before Him and give an account.
 - God has said that all who believe in Jesus Christ and follow Him shall be saved and all those who refuse to do so shall be damned.
 - When all goes along with God, all is well, however when things go contrary to God's will, there is trouble and when it is all over, God has His way.

III. GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY IN THE CRUCIFIXION

1. Many don't think so but God was sovereign (in charge) at Jesus' death.
 - Jesus was born according to God's plans, and Jesus lived His life among people according to God's plans and the people nailed Jesus to the cross according to God's plans.
 - The disciples thought Jesus could never die and that He would be their king, yet there was Jesus hanging on the cross.
 - As two disciples walked to their home in Emmaus, resurrected Jesus joined them and they didn't know who He was until He ate with them and they suddenly realized who He was.
 - God almighty came down and did the greatest of all miracles, He raised from the grave Jesus, the Man who had lived and died to glorify God.
2. God, who is totally free, anywhere, all the time, can do anything He wills to do and will carry out His purposes.
 - God purposes to bring forth from humanity a ransomed people from every tongue, people, tribe, nation, color, race and ethnic origin around the world. (**Revelation 5:9**)
 - God will make them to be like His Son, and will be His "bride," ransomed, redeemed and purified.
 - God declares that all sinners will be removed from the earth (**Psalm 104:35**)
 - God is going to cleanse the earth, making new heavens and a new earth and there will be righteousness with no sinners anymore. (**2 Peter 3:13**)
 - Nothing and nobody can stop God and God never needs to ask what is in a person for He knows every human being inside and out.

CONCLUSION:

1. When a person freely chooses to walk against the way of God, he/she freely chooses to go on the road to hell.
2. Everyone who will be in heaven will be there because he/she chose to go there.
 - When Judas died, he went "to his own place.."
 - When Lazarus died, he went to his place.
 - They had chosen and whoever is not on God's side is on the losing side.
3. If one is going to be on God's side, absolute consecration, dedication is necessary.

- If one is on God's side, he/she can't lose, but if one is on the other side, he/she can't win.
- 4. Any person who is with God can't lose, because God can't lose. GOD IS SOVEREIGN.
- 5. Are YOU on God's side? completely, wholly, forever?
 - Have you given God everything - home, business, school, family?
 - It's foolish to choose any other way and it's useless to try to outsmart God or to fight against Him.