

POINT: THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD (Rom.1-8; 12-16 & 9-11; 11:33-36)

INTRODUCTION: DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY & HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY (i.e., “free will”)

- A. HUMILITY: HUMAN LIMITATIONS** (Rom.9:19f; 11:33f; Job 38:1f; 42:1f; see Dt.29:29; Eccl.3:11; Acts 1:7)
- B. MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE** (see Rom.8:19; 3:5,7; hyper-“Calvinism”/Arminianism)
- C. MUTUALLY CONDITIONED** (see Rom.8:19; 3:5,7; hyper-“Calvinism”/Arminianism)
- D. MUTUALLY ABSOLUTE** (see below; true Calvinism)

I. DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (Rom.9:16,18; see Ps.115:3=135:6; 103:19; Dan.4:17,25)

A. GOD CREATED EVERY THING (Gen.1,2; see Ex.20:11; Ps.146:6; Acts 4:24; 14:15)

- 1. *therefore, every thing is good* (Gen.1:4f,31; 1Tm.4:4a; but see Dt.21:20)
- 2. *therefore, He has authority over all things* (Rom.9:21; see Is.29:16; 45:9; Jer.18:4f)

B. GOD ORDAINED EVERY EVENT (Rom.9:11,18; Eph.1:11; *ie, makes certain*; see Ps.115:3; 103:19; Dn.4:17,25)

- 1. *therefore every event is good* (see Gen.1:4f,31; Job 2:10; but see Rev.2:7; 22:2f with Gen.2:16f; 3:1f)
 - a. He is the ultimate cause of the doing of all good (Jms.1:17; see 3Jn.1:11)
 - b. He is the ultimate cause of the undoing of all evil (Rom.9:22; 2Pt.2:4; 3:10f,13; Rev.21:8)
 - c. He is not the ultimate cause of the doing of any evil (Jms.1:13-16; yet Mt.6:13; 4:1)
- 2. *therefore, He has authority over all events* (Rom.9:11,16,18,21; Eph.1:11; *ie, makes certain*; see Ps.115:3; 103:19; Dn.4:17,25)

C. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD IN RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE

(Rom.3:3,4; 5,6; 9:14,15; 19,20f; Eph.1:11)

II. HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (Rom.10:3; 11,13; 14f /3:5,6 /Ps7:12f; 96:13,1f)

A. MAN WILL BE JUDGED BY GOD (Rom.2:16; 3:6; see Ps.7:12f; 96:13,1f)

B. MAN IS ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD FOR HIS THOUGHTS, WORDS & DEEDS (Rom.2:5,16; 14:10f)

C. MAN IS ACCOUNTABLE FOR WHAT HE DOES, NOT WHAT GOD DOES WITH IT

(Rom.3:5f; 9:22; see Ps.76:10; 18:26)

D. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAN FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE

(Rom.; the Bible!; sacrifices, discipline, blessing)

III. RELATIONSHIP

A. GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY: ABSOLUTE & INDEPENDENT (i.e., divine free will; Ex.3:14; Ps.115:3; Is.45:5f; 46:9; Rom.3,9; Job)

B. MAN’S SOVEREIGNTY: RELATIVE & DEPENDENT (responsible, accountable; i.e., human free will; Gen.1:26f; 2:15; 3:8f; Rom.14:12)

C. MAN IS RESPONSIBLE TO GOD FOR MAN’S SOVEREIGNTY (not for God’s!; see Rom.9:20; 10:1f; Job 38:1f,4f; see Rom.11:33f; Job 42:11f)

D. GOD IS SOVEREIGN TO ENABLE MAN TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

(Rom.10:11,13f; 11:1f,32)

CONCLUSION: ABSOLUTE TRUTHS (see Rom.9 & 10 & 11; see 11:32f)

POINT: THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD (Rom.1-8; 12-16 & 9-11; see 11:33-36; Is.45:22)

Discussion question:

*Brethren, what shall **WE do?*** (see Acts 2:37f)