

May 31, 2020

God, Sovereign over salvation of souls!
Jonah 2:9 (ESV) But I with the voice of thanksgiving
will sacrifice to you;
what I have vowed I will pay.
Salvation belongs to the Lord!

Introduction

Is God sovereign? If He is sovereign what is He sovereign over

God is sovereign

Job 2:9-10 (ESV) Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die." 10 But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good from God, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

What is He sovereign over?

Isaiah 46:8-11 (ESV) "Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, 9 remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other;

I am God, and there is none like me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand,

and I will accomplish all my purpose,' 11 calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country.

I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;

I have purposed, and I will do it.

Job 25:6(ESV) How much less man, who is a maggot, and the son of man, who is a worm!"

Isaiah 40:17 (ESV) All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

Psalm 8:3-6 (ESV) When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

and crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under his feet.

God's Decrees-The blueprint, the plan

God's Providence-Brings the blueprint to completion

The decrees took place in eternity past, providence takes place as history is played out!

Daniel 4:34-35 (ESV) At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; 35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand.

1. Good and evil events

2. Sinful acts

2 Samuel 24:1 (ESV) Again the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, "Go, number Israel and Judah."

1 Chronicles 21:1 (ESV) Then Satan stood against Israel and incited David to number Israel.

3. Free acts of men

4. Chance occurrences

Job 5:6 (ESV) For affliction does not come from the dust, nor does trouble sprout from the ground.

Job 36:32 (ESV) He covers his hands with the lightning and commands it to strike the mark.

Proverbs 16:33 (ESV) The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.

5. Details of our lives

6. Affairs of nations

7. The final destruction of the wicked

8. The salvation of souls

John 1:12-13 (ESV) But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Ephesians 2:1-5

Psalm 115:3 (ESV) Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

Psalm 135:6 (ESV) Whatever the Lord pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

R.C. Sproul said, "there is not a maverick molecule in the entire universe"!

He has the whole world in His hand! Sing with me!

Why does God have to be sovereign over the salvation of souls?

Eph 1.1-2:10

Romans 5:6-11 (ESV) For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to

die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Ephesians 2:1 (ESV) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins.

Scripturally speaking the evidence is overwhelming
The Ephesians Scripture says by grace alone and not of works

This is why those who divide up the responsibility between what God does and man does are wrong
They believe that God does everything but believe for you

This is what you must do
But in Scripture God does all the work
Yet man is fully responsible for coming

Why does God have to be sovereign over the salvation of souls?

The Old Testament tells us what God is going to do!

The Old Testaments speaks of what God is going to do!

Jeremiah 31:31-33 (ESV) Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to

bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezekiel 36:24-27 (ESV) I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. 25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Jesus says a man must be born spiritually!

John 3:1-8

John 1:12-13 (ESV) But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Matthew 11:25-30 (ESV) At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; 26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you

rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your soul.

John 8:43-44 (ESV) Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word.

44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 6:44 (ESV) No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

John 6:65 (ESV) And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

Matthew 12:29 (ESV) Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.

After being made a child of God solely as a work of God this man or woman now has a freed will

Paul ties it all together!

Ephesians 2.1-10

It had to be God

Romans 3:23 (ESV) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 (ESV) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 3:9-12 (ESV) What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, 10 as it is written:

"None is righteous, no, not one;

11 no one understands;

no one seeks for God.

12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;

no one does good,
not even one."

Philippians 1:6 (ESV) And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:12-13 (ESV) Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, **13** for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Why is it not OK for God to decide who will be saved?

Who better than a loving and just God to determine who will be saved and who will not be saved?

Who but a loving God has the right to make one spiritually alive while leaving the next to his or her own desires?

What did we all deserve?

So what can we do? Cry out to God, O God have mercy on me a sinner in need of a Savior!

The leadership at Maranatha believes and teaches that God alone saves sinners!

Monergism describes the position in Christian theology of those who believe that God through the Holy Spirit works to effectually bring about the salvation of individuals through spiritual regeneration without cooperation from the individual. That the sinner is completely passive in the process of regeneration.

We believe God saves sinners. Saves, does everything involved from first to last in bringing man from death in sin to life in glory. He planned our salvation from eternity, achieves and communicates Christ's redemption, calls and keeps and justifies, sanctifies and glorifies all who believe in Him.

God saves sinners—men as God finds them, guilty, proud, helpless, powerless, unable to lift a finger to do God's will or to improve their spiritual lot. God saves sinners—and the force of this confession must not be weakened by disrupting the unity of the work of the Trinity, or by dividing the achievement of salvation between God and man and making the decisive part man's own decision.

This is the one point of monergism—sinners do not in any form or fashion save themselves but that salvation, first and last, whole and entire, past and present and future is of the Lord. Man's is then to repent and believe the gospel.

Adapted From Appendix D, "Roman's, An Interpretative Outline", by Curtis Thomas and David Steele