



KNOWING GOD

God is Sovereign

Pastor Shawn, Aug 10, 2025

"Remember the things I have done in the past. For I alone am God!

I am God, and there is none like me. Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. Isaiah 46:9–10

"What Does It Mean to Call God Sovereign?"

- God possesses ultimate authority and power over all things.
- Nothing happens without His permission or decree.

For God to be truly sovereign, He must be:

- ⇒ **Omniscient** (all-knowing): Any lack of knowledge & He couldn't rule perfectly.
- ⇒ **Omnipotent** (all-powerful): Lack any bit of power jeopardizes His sovereignty.
- ⇒ **Absolutely free**: Nothing can hinder or compel Him—He acts solely by His will.

The Tensions created by acknowledging the Sovereignty of God

- Tension Between God's Sovereignty and Human Suffering
- Tension Between God's Sovereignty and Human Responsibility
- Tension Between God's Sovereignty and Unanswered Prayer
- Tension Between God's Control and Life's Chaos
- Tension Between God's Sovereignty and our inability to control outcomes
- Tension Between the Micro & the Macro of freewill & God's Sovereignty

"God sovereignly decreed that man should be free to exercise moral choice, and man from the beginning has fulfilled that decree by making his choice between good and evil. When he chooses to do evil, he does not thereby countervail the sovereign will of God but fulfills it..."

A.W. Tozer – Knowledge of the Holy

How Did Jesus Demonstrate His Sovereignty?

Over Creation - Matthew 8:23–27 – Calming the storm / dominion over creation

Over Disease & Death - John 11 – Raising Lazarus shows power over life and death

Over Authorities - John 19:10–11— Jesus tells Pilate "All authority is from above"

Over Evil – John 10:18 - Goes to the cross by choice, defeats death & evil plans

Surrendered to God's Sovereignty means

- We can relate to people with grace, not control
- We can face problems with peace, not anxiety
- We can respond to injustice with courage and hope
- We live with humility, not pride. We are worshippers.
- We engage life & our world with purpose, not passivity
- We pray for God to exercise His will in our life & world

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6–7