

Introduction: In flight - Hong Kong to Beijing

Question: What makes you think your god is better than everyone else's god?

Answer: The God I worship . . .

- . . . is before ____ things. Colossians 1:17, Psalm 90:2, Revelation 1:8, 1 Timothy 6:16
- . . . created ____ things. Genesis 1:1, John 1:3, Colossians 1:16
- . . . upholds ____ things. Hebrews 1:3, Colossians 1:17
- . . . is above ____ things. Ephesians 4:6, Isaiah 45:5-12
- . . . knows ____ things. Isaiah 46:10, Psalm 139:4,6
- . . . can do ____ things. Jeremiah 32:27, Luke 1:37
- . . . accomplishes ____ things. Isaiah 14:24 & 46:10, Ephesians 1:11
- . . . rules over ____ things. Daniel 4:34-35, 1 Chronicles 29:11-12
- . . . is in control of ____ things. Job 42:2, Romans 8:28
 - *earthly kings* Proverbs 21:1, Revelation 19:16
 - *human events* Daniel 2 & 7, Psalm 33:9-11
 - *good angels* Colossians 1:15-16, Revelation 4:8
 - *Satan & bad angels* Job 1:6, Ephesians 1:21, Philippians 2:10
 - *human decisions* Ephesians 1:11, Romans 8:29-30, Acts 2:23; 13:48

In a word, I worship the Sovereign God of the universe.

Defining the sovereignty of God:

- Sovereign = **adj.** (1) above or superior to all others; chief; greatest; supreme (2) supreme in power, rank, or authority (3) of or holding the position of ruler; royal; reigning (4) independent of all others (5) excellent; outstanding – **n.** (1) a person who possesses sovereign authority or power; specific, a monarch or ruler
- Synonymous meaning = *ruler, ultimate authority, “in control,” King of kings, Lord of lords, without equal, without limitation in any way, the only absolutely free being in the universe.*

The sovereignty of God
is that which
separates the God of the Bible
from all other religions, truth claims, or philosophies.

When we say God is sovereign,
we declare
that by virtue of His creatorship over all life and reality,
and His all-knowing, all-powerful, and benevolent rule,
that He is in fact the Lord of all lords, King of all kings,
and in absolute control of time and eternity.

Nothing will come into my life today
that He did not either allow or decree
for my ultimate good.

How does God reveal His sovereignty to us?

- Through His _____ - SOVEREIGN LORD, MOST HIGH GOD, ALPHA & OMEGA, KINGS OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS
- Through His _____
 - Romans 8:28-30
 - Philippians 2:9-11
- Through _____
 - Daniel 2:27
 - Isaiah 44:6-8
 - Daniel 7-12 (kingdoms predicted)
- Through _____
 - His supernatural birth Galatians 4:4, Matthew 2:3-6
 - His perfect life - fulfilled 100s of prophecies Matthew 4:14; Matthew 12:15-21
 - His Messianic teaching John 8:48-58
 - His willful death and miraculous resurrection John 10:17-18
 - His ultimate reign Acts 1:9-11; Revelation 19:11-16

Two questions the sovereignty of God raises:

1. If God is sovereign, why did/does He allow evil, pain, and suffering?
(The Problem of Pain – C.S. Lewis)
2. If God is sovereign over all people and events in history, doesn't this make a sham of human responsibility? (Chosen but Free – Norman Geisler)

How must we respond to the sovereign God?

1. _____ before the King of the universe. Philippians 2:9-11

Application: Absolute _____ of all you are and all you have!

2. _____ all that comes into your life is either allowed or decreed by a good God who will use it for your benefit.

Romans 8:28-29, Genesis 50:20

Application: Absolutely refuse to _____!

3. _____ in awe the mystery and majesty of His kind, compassionate, just, and sovereign rule of all that is or will ever be.

Romans 11:33-36, Genesis 50:20

Application: _____ God for who He is, not merely for what He has done!

Application:

1. Share the greatest comfort you experience right now because of the sovereignty of God, with a friend or family member.
2. Take some time to look up and read the passages in these notes.
3. For more in depth study, write out the passages and then your response in prayer.