

NATURE OF GOD'S SOVEREIGNY

Intro. Diff subj. Most imp't to say enuf or unbalanced. Go only as far as Bible.

1. The Concept.

- 1. Not Biblical word like atonement, trinity.
- 2. Eng. means highest, principal, related to soprano, highest female voice. Doesn't tell you how or relationships of highest but fact. Highest ruler is God. Col. 1. Eph 1 tells how He rules. Not nec dictatorial but in control. or wouldn't be highest.

~~xxxxxxx~~ In outworking concept is close to idea of selection. Used to it. Color, size, abilities, sp gifts, leaders. Is, Jacob.

II. The Characteristics.

- 1. It is all inclusive. Eph. 1:11. But by varying direct means. Direct-Acts 5. Ordinary, 1 Cor 11:30; Most indirect, Rom 1:26-7. 10:27 Phil 2:30

- 2. Compatible with His character. Loving, Eph 1:4. Wise, Jude 25.

Eternal, Originated in eternity, Eph. 1:4. and extends to eternity future. Gives new dimension. We see and learn of only a little part of God's plan. Like symphony. No judges of its wisdom.

Self-glorifying. Eph. 1:12-14. Hard for us bec of earthly perspective. Ps 76:10. Ps ~~xxxxx~~ yet sin sin. /Ps 78:41

Add to 1. Uses laws and is thereby limited. e.g. gravity. e.g. Gal. 6:7. e.g. preaching, 1 Cor. 1:21, Rom 10:14. If not conc'd to be in accord with God's laws, then something wrong with your view of sov.

- 3. Comforting to bel. Is it bad to be in hand of Gdd like that? Only if don't heed His clear will. In sal or service. Everything imp't includ decision today.

Rom 11:33-36

God's Plan	Minor Response
Eph 1:4	Rom 10:14
Proph	Jas 4:2
Death	Eut

## PROBLEMS OF SOVEREIGNTY

I. What's going to be is going to be.  
Diff from fatalism bec 1. no intelligence  
behind fatalism only blind chance.  
and 2. fatalism doesn't emphasize means,  
only ends and decree says means and res-  
ponsibility nec. part.

2. God is the author of sin. Isa 45:7.  
Ezek 28:17. God hates sin. God never  
responsible for commission of sin.  
God not caught off guard when sin appeared.  
God did design plan that permitted sin  
but wasn't author of the sin in the plan.

3. Man not responsible bec not free.  
Same ? as in Rom 9:19. Ans. God has  
absolute rights but equally true that  
in exercising them He has made man  
responsible. Eating, praying, witnessing.

*Can be out of will of God & yet in plan.*

*e.g. Teaching - some find This not my desire  
or will.*

*1 Cor 12:22*

*1 Cor 12:8*

C. The Characteristics of the doctrine of election

1. It is all-inclusive, Eph. 1:11
2. Is it harmonious, Eph. 1:4
3. It is comforting, Rom. 8:28

D. The Problems in the Doctrine

- A. What's going to be is going to be
- B. God is the author of sin
- C. Man is not responsible because he is not free

TOPIC 5. LIMITED OR UNLIMITED ATONEMENT

I. The Question--what is the purpose of the atonement?

- A. The Arminian answer
- B. The Calvinistic answer
- C. The moderate Calvinistic answer