

As the darkness around us deepens, and men lean more and more to the glorification of themselves rather than of Christ, the need grows more urgent for the teaching of God's full control, on earth as well as in heaven.

Many will confess that God rules in heaven but for the most part His Rulership on earth is doubted, or outright denied. While the modern, intellectual thinker pushes his Creator more and more into the background, God sent His Bride, a Prophet who taught a doctrine that he called "The Sovereignty Of God."

QUOTE: DOING GOD A SERVICE, PAGE 8 "and God being Sovereign, there is no one to tell Him what to do, or how to do it, And that makes me feel good, and it ought to make us all feel good." (End quote)

QUOTE: DOING GOD A SERVICE, PAGE 20 "God is Sovereign. First, we want to understand that. Do you believe that God is Sovereign? The Bible speaks that way." (End quote)

QUOTE: WHAT SHALL I DO WITH JESUS, PAGE 18 "And to think that the God who made all of that and set it in order — and would so honor us with His august presence, that He would stand here on this sinful earth in these last days and prove His word to be so, because He is obligated to that word. Amen. The Sovereignty of that Great One, who holds those things in His Hand." (End quote)

QUOTE: EVENTS MADE CLEAR BY PROPHECY, PAGE 26 "He is Sovereign. He does what He wishes to, no one can tell Him what to do. He abides alone, in His will and His ways." (End quote)

The definition of the word Sovereign is, "One who abides alone, and who has no governing body. A king who rules solely from the dictates of his own heart, and whose every decision is final." Such a One is our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our precious brother, William Branham, taught that the will of God will be done on earth, as well as in heaven, and this makes Him to be Sovereign.

QUOTE: CHURCH AGE BOOK, PAGE 369 "The will of God will be done regardless, amen. I hope you see this. It will not only clear up much of what is seen in all ages, but it will especially help in this last age, when the whole period is so against the word." (End quote)

The Sovereignty of God

Who Is Controlling Earths Affairs? What Sayeth the Scriptures and the Prophet?

By C. W. Wood

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In the above quote, a Prophet explains that if we can understand that God is Sovereign and that His will is constantly being done, it will clear up our questions about so many seemingly bad things happening. It's God making all things work together for good. Concerning these seemingly bad things, he also said in HEBREW'S BOOK, PAGES 108-109. QUOTE: "Why did God let this happen Brother Branham? Why did God do this or that? God's doing that. Let Him alone, just walk on. That's God's business. The footprints of the righteous are ordered by the Lord. Yes sir! What difference does it make? I lost all my money Brother Branham. Well, Bless God anyhow. Oh, I did this, and that happened. A storm blowed in my house. Bless God anyhow. The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away — just keep on walking, it's all the glory of the Lord. God knows what He is doing!" (End quote)

Our God is not filled with good intentions toward His people, that He is not able to carry out. No enemy has wrested the controls from His Hand, so that He is frustrated and unable to carry out the plan He made.

Nothing is so faith building and so restful to the mind as the assurance that The Lord Himself sits on His Throne as "The Governor Of The Nations" (Ps. 22:28). "Working all things after the counsel of His own will" (Eph. 1:11)

Our heart has been made to rejoice again and again, as we have gone thru Brother Branham's messages and studied his doctrine on the Sovereignty of God, as it ties in with Scripture. He has helped us to see that "The Lord has made all things for Himself - yea even the wicked for the day of evil." (Prov. 16:4)

Scattered thru his sermons he taught the foundational truth of the Sovereignty O God. To this writer it is the stone upon which all other doctrines rest. We now can see that things that we have, in the past given Satan credit for, has been our God controlling the boundaries of evil, in order to bring to pass His own will.

This revelation has allowed us to face the circumstances of daily life with absolute trust in our God, knowing that "All things are working together for good to those who love the Lord and are the called (Bride) according to His purpose." (Rom. 8:28)

One of the greatest hindrances to the life of perfect faith that our God called us to, is the difficulty of seeing God in everything In Pentecost, and even over into our message days, we have credited Satan with the ability to disarrange a life that was turned over to God.

Our faith is far from perfect when we suppose that Satan can upset God's program, wherein He has planned to grow us up into the Image of Christ. There are no accidents in God's plan. All that comes to us has first been weighed by Our Father, then only if it is beneficial to us, is it allowed to enter our life. God must judge these things, we cannot!

QUOTE: LETTING OFF PRESSURE, PAGE 26 "Nothing happens by chance. Everything is ordained of God. No matter what happens, all things are going to work out for good." (End quote)

QUOTE: THIS DAY THIS SCRIPTURE IS FULFILLED, PAGE 2 "I don't think that anything happens to a Christian by chance. I think it's all ordained of God. Because the Bible says "All things work together for good to them that love Him."

So often we hear the teaching about how Satan knows all our weak points and how he attacks us in these places. No doubt it is true that he knows about them, but it is also true that he is only a tool in our Father's Hands.

The truth is, it is our God that is dealing with us concerning our weaknesses, and using the enemy to make us aware of them, so He can heal us. If our God is sovereign, as the prophet declared Him to be, then He rules over this created being we call Satan, just as He rules over all other things.

This means that our enemy cannot make one move toward us without permission from our loving Father. To prove this by the word we only have to read Satan's own testimony in Job 1:10 "**Hast not Thou made an hedge about him (Job) and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side.**" We have no need to fear when right with God.

It is forever true that our Sovereign God is having the say-so about what happens in our lives. It is forever true that we can accept all the circumstances of life as having come to us from God's Hand, and that each thing is geared to help us, and not destroy us.

Let the prophet speak once again, QUOTE: REV. CPT. 4, PART 1, PAGE 560 "And can anything happen to a Christian without it being for the best? No! (End quote)

Do we realize that our Lord Jesus Himself taught this powerful revelation? He clearly and pointedly told Pilot that he could have no power at all over him except it be given him from above. (John 19:10-11) Pilot had boasted of his own power, thinking he was the one to decide the fate of Jesus, but it was at this point that our Lord spoke and upheld the doctrine of the Sovereignty of God.

Let His powerful and precious statement sink down into our soul forever more "Thou couldest have no power at all against Me, except it were given thee from above - - - ." Someone may say, but Jesus was God. Truly He was, but He was also a man, and ministered on earth by the power of the Holy Ghost just as Paul, and William Branham, and just as you and I must do.

It was the man part of Jesus that said to Pilot: "You have no power over me." Does not the Bible teach that Jesus, the man, is our example? Surely it does, then we also must believe that Satan has no power at all over us, except it be given him from above.

This then is the teaching of the Scriptures and of the Prophet concerning the

Sovereignty of God. The popular teaching is to blame the devil for all seemingly bad things. Satan himself teaches this kind of a doctrine. Truth is, to blame Satan does not solve our problem, because if Satan is overpowering God and defeating His purpose, then Satan is almighty and God is not the Supreme, Sovereign, Being.

And if our God is not having His way, then Satan is having his, and if Satan is overruling God how can the many precious promises to the Bride come to pass? How different is the God our prophet taught us about from the God of the modern church! The God of many today is one who stands by helplessly while the enemy plays havoc with all of His creation, forgetting Prov. 16:4 that declares, "**God made the wicked for the Day of Evil.**"

When Brother William Branham declared our God to be Sovereign he was affirming His right to govern the world, which He created, just as He pleases, and for His own glory. He was stating that He is under no rule or law outside of His own will. He was declaring to the Bride that their Bridegroom will exercise His power when and where He will, and that no one can stay His Hand.

Dan. 4:35 "**An all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing. And He (God) doeth according to His will, in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay His Hand or say, what doest Thou.**"

When our Prophet declared God to be Sovereign he was pointing us to the word. Isa. 14:24 "**The Lord of Hosts has sworn, saying, surely as I have thought so shall it come to pass, and as I have purposed so shall it stand.**"

Isa. 14:27 "**For the Lord of Hosts hath purposed (planned) and who shall disannul it, and His Hand is outstretched and who shall turn it back.**"

1 Chron. 29:11 "**Thine O Lord is the greatness and the power and the glory, and the victory and the majesty. For all that is in heaven and in the earth is thine. Thine is the kingdom O Lord and Thou art exalted as Head above all.**"

Ps. 135:6 "**Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that He did, in heaven and in earth, in the sea, and all deep places.**" Isa. 40:21 "**Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?"** (No Lord, some of your little bride have not understood the revelation of your Sovereignty, would you

you state it for us again?) "**It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers. (It's God) that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in. That bringeth the Princes to nothing. He maketh the Judges of the earth as vanity.**"

Precious bride of Christ, the time is here for us to dethrone Satan from the place he has occupied in our minds, and put Jesus Christ back on the Throne. We must never give Satan credit for anything, but treat him as the defeated enemy that he is.

How he does boast thru the teaching of his deceived ministers. They constantly speak of Satan's power and shrewdness and ability. Thank God for a prophet that declared him to be only a bluff. Once again let the great "I Am" speak for Himself. "**That they may know from the rising of the sun and from the west there is none besides Me. I am the Lord and there is none else. I form the light and create darkness. I make peace and create evil. I, the Lord, do all these things.**" (Isa. 45:6-7)

How can we get around the scriptures? They declare thruout the Bible that Jesus Christ rules and reigns over what He created. Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, and said, "**Oh Lord God of our Fathers art not Thou God in heaven? And rulest not Thou over all the kingdoms of the heathern. And in Thy Hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to stand against Thee.**" (2 Chron. 20:5-6)

It was true then and it is true now. The God that was in charge in Jehoshaphat's day is, in these last days, controlling every detail that happens on earth, and this for the benefit of his Bride, to perfect them and give them rapturing faith.

QUOTE: THINGS THAT ARE TO BE, PAGE 13 "I don't believe that a person just happened to be here by chance. Now just think, when you came to the earth everything had to be prepared for you. I don't understand how we could think that a God who could prepare all these good things for us, that we couldn't put our trust in Him when He brought us into this chaos that we are in now." (End quote)

Brother Branham taught that every trial is put upon us by God, and not at the whims of Satan.

QUOTE: HEBREW BOOK, PAGE 126 "You mustn't question anything to God, for the footsteps of the righteous are ordered

of the Lord, and every trial is put upon you to try you. And the Bible says they are more precious than gold. Every son that commeth to God must first be chastened of God and tried. There are no exceptions, it's every son that commeth. These afflictions are to see what attitude you will take. See it's God on His proving ground. (Notice, he said it's God, not Satan) (End quote)

How hard it is for our natural minds to understand some of the things the Lord leads us thru, but if we can only understand that it is really Him and not Satan, then our fears can be replaced with faith. To fear Satan is to first doubt God's Sovereignty and love for us.

QUOTE: MASTERPIECE, PAGE 2 "When they got him in (from the burned plane) they had to bury him the next day. Some of these things we can't understand, but yet He makes everything to work just right. We are here in the service of the Lord this morning knowing that we believe that He will make everything just exactly right. Regardless of what it is and how it works out (to our natural mind) — we know it's got to work for good. He promised that. It's just got to be that way. - - - gets very complicated at times, but yet we know that it's the truth, cause the Bible says it is. (End quote)

We do admit that life is full of problems, and that we cannot reason about them and always understand what our Father is doing. We are often surrounded by mystery, so that if faith in His Sovereignty is missing, we will be cast into a deep valley. But He would not have us ignorant. No! We have a sure word of prophesy, of which it is said that we would do well to take heed.

Let us then take heed to Eph. 1:11 "**In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will.**"

Let us also take heed to the words of our prophet, who was taught by an Angel, and by visions from the Lord.

QUOTE: CHURCH AGE BOOK, PAGE 333-334 "These things saith the faithful and true witness. Now I want to show you what I find in the thought of "Faithful". We often get a view of God that makes Him seem very impersonal. It is as though God made the whole universe, and all things that pertain to it, and then stood back and became a great but impersonal God - - - Now I say that is how too many people are apt to think. But that is wrong thinking, for God is governing in the affairs of men right now. He is both Creator

and Sustainer. He is working all things at this moment according to the purpose of His own will. He is right in the midst of it all. He is in the midst of His church. This great Creator, Saviour God, is faithfully working amongst His own right now, as the Great Shepherd of the sheep. His very existence is for His own. He loves them and cares for them. His eye is ever upon them. When the word says that your lives are hid with Christ in God, it means exactly what it says. Oh, I am so glad that my God abides faithful. He is true to Himself, He won't lie. He is true to His word, He will back it up. He is true to us, He will lose none of us, but raise us up at the last day. I am glad that I am resting in His faithfulness." (End quote)

His Secret Will V.S. His Revealed Will

With our prophet, and the scriptures, making so many positive statements concerning God's will always being done, we are made to wonder just what he meant in the Church Age book (page 369) when he said "The will of God will be done regardless" then going on to say "Most all that is happening is against the word."

If God's will is always being done, how could the whole period be going against His word, which is His will? How can God's will be done regardless, while the whole age is against the written word? It is a known fact that the world, and we Christians, violate His will and word every day in some way. Even if it is only a sin of omission, something we should have done and didn't!

The commandments are broken daily all over the world. The commandment don't kill is broken daily. The other commandments of don't lie, steal, commit adultery, worship false Gods, are broken daily. How then can God's prophet say that God's will is being done regardless of all these flagrant violations?

What we need to see is that God has an overall plan, formed before He created, and that this plan He has Keep to Himself, as a secret, until such time as He sees fit to reveal it thru His prophets. This secret plan is daily being moved toward it's completion, and this in spite of the violations of His revealed will, as set forth in the word.

Men breaking His revealed will, His written commandments, does in no way stop or hinder His secret, overall plan from being done. God has a will that He has made known in His written word, and He has a secret will that He keeps to Himself

and only reveals as He sees fit.

So many things happen that we don't understand. We don't understand why we have to fail so often. We don't understand why we have to be sick, and why some die and are not healed. Job didn't understand why he lost all that he had, and then when he was deathly sick could not get an answer from God.

We don't understand why our great nation has to go the way it is going, deeper and deeper into sin. We don't understand our leaders taking a stand for sin and against the word of God. But as we read Prov. 21:1 we are made to know that the whole affair is in the Lord's Hands. "**The kings heart is in the Hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water He turneth it whithersoever He will.**"

Many cannot accept the fact that God's will is being done daily, because they see His written, revealed will, being violated daily. This is because we have failed to see that Brother Branham taught that God has a secret will as well as a revealed will.

QUOTE: DOING GOD A SERVICE, PAGE 10 "God reveals this word in the season, and to whom He chooses to reveal it to. He choose that before the foundation of the world. All His doings were fore-known by Him, hidden from man. He just reveals them as He will." (End quote) (The prophet saying God has a secret will.)

Should we say that God's declared, or revealed will, as shown in His commandments, is always done we would be wrong. But if we should say that His secret will could ever be changed or stopped, we would also be very wrong. Many sinful things happen daily that God hates as sin, they are against His Holy nature. But all things considered, and as an overall thing, it is best that they happen as they do.

There are many, many examples of this in the scriptures. It was a sin for Judas to betray the Lord Jesus, but all things considered it was best that he did. It was meant for God's Christ to be killed for our salvation.

It was sin for Pharaoh to keep holding God's Israelite children, when God's revealed will to him was "Let them go." But all things considered it was best for him to hold them, so God's power could be revealed to both the Israelites and the Egyptians. God's secret will was done.

It was sin for Joseph's brothers to hate him and sell him as a slave into Egypt. But all things considered it was best that they did. It was God's secret will being done in that He was sending Joseph there to save

the whole world from a seven year famine.

It was a sin for the church to instigate the exile of John the Revelator to the Isle of Patmos, but all things considered God knew what He would do according to His secret will. He was going to give you and I the Book of Revelations.

In the garden of Eden we see God's revealed will being violated by Adam and Eve, while God's own secret will was being carried out thru their sin. God had planned for sin to enter. The prophet said it was so He could show His attributes. God's revealed will to Adam and Eve was "Do not partake of that tree, if you do eat you shall surely die."

Yet the scriptures declare that God's Christ was "Slain from before the foundation of the world." This has to mean that God had a secret will He was carrying out in Eden. It was sin for His children to partake of the sexual fruit, but all things considered, it was best that they did. God's plan included sin.

The question arises, how could God hold Adam and Eve responsible for fulfilling a plan He Himself had made? The answer is made simple by our prophet's teaching when he said "God keeps His secret will hidden from man." Adam only knew God's revealed will, which was "Do not eat." Since he knew nothing of God's secret plan for sin to enter, he was held responsible for the knowledge he did have. Neither did God tempt Adam to sin, because He straitly warned him "If you do it you will die."

It was a sin against God's revealed will when Saul sought to take David's life, and kept him in the wilderness for those trying years, but all things considered it was best that it happened that way. God was testing and preparing a King for Israel, of whom He could say "He is a man after my own heart."

No doubt some who read this teaching will say to me "But Brother Branham said that Satan took over this world." In the message Satan's Eden, page 7, and in other

places also, he did say that Satan took over and is the God of this world. But never did he teach that Satan is the God of the Bride Christian.

To put this together with what he said about God's Sovereignty, we know he meant that God is using Satan to carry out His secret will. Consider the following statement by our prophet and let it comfort your heart. **QUOTE: THEN JESUS CAME, PAGE 17** "He sits tonite as the majesty, He looks down on earth. There is not even a ripple can come on the water without Him, it's by His permission. The sea can't move, a leaf can't move, a bird can't fly (without His permission). He is above all principalities and powers - - - He is so high until He has to look down to see heaven." (End quote)

Such a statement is exactly in line with the word when we consider Matt. 10:29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing (a penny)? And one of them shall not fall to the ground without your Father."

Yes, little Bride, God is in control and He sent His prophet to explain His word to us.

The Need For This Doctrine

Doctrine means teaching, and it is by doctrine, or teaching, that the great truths that God revealed to our prophet are made known to us. It is by doctrine that the Bride is nourished and edified. When we neglect doctrine, growth in grace and faith necessarily cease. The doctrines of the prophet's message are the very basis for the practical life that the Bride must live, and the basis for rapturing faith.

John 8:32 "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." God intends the doctrines of His prophet to set us free from fear, ignorance, error, free from the power of Satan, and free from the wiles of Satan.

While the soul is ignorant of the Sovereignty of God, it is open to receive all the teachings of deceived ministers about what

Satan is doing on earth. The doctrine of God's Sovereignty is not one to read and then ignore, but is sent by God to produce a powerful faith in the hearts of His Bride. It will have a drastic effect upon our daily life.

This doctrine of God's Sovereignty is the foundation for all Christian theology, it is the central truth around which all other doctrines must gather. It gives peace and rest in times of great trial. It furnishes a sense of security for the unknown future.

It shows the devil to be a defeated foe, taking orders from our Father. It gives our God all the glory He is due, and gives no glory at all to Satan. It places man in his place, which is on his face in the dust before his Creator. It shows that there is only one God and not three persons, as so many teach today.

The doctrine of the Sovereignty of God argues that no man has a right to "Reply against God." He has never made a mistake, and has never had to change His mind. He has never done a human being an injustice. It puts the lie to the modern belief that God is a helpless Being, obliged to sit back and watch as Satan overrules the good end that God has ordained.

It gives a clear meaning to **Ps. 76:10** "Surely the wrath of man shall praise Thee, the remainder of wrath shalt Thou restrain." God will use the wrath of man, and of Satan, and make it work for His own glory. Then any other wrathful plans that man or Satan may have, that would not fit God's purpose, He will restrain them. (Stop them)

Let us bow before Him in adoration and praise little Bride, as we receive the full revelation of **Ps. 99:1-2** "The Lord reigneth, let the people tremble - - - He is high above all the people." (And the devil)

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