

Pk's Perspectives ... God's Sovereignty

The sovereignty of God is a ginormous truth that my little brain struggles to grasp. For me, pondering on the sovereignty of God is akin to sipping water from a gushing fire hydrant. By faith in what Scripture teaches, I know God is everywhere all the time, He knows everything past/present/future, His power is unrivaled and His love is unconditionally perfect. Yet God does not leverage His sovereignty to force me into submission to His desires; even though His desire for relationship w/me is the greatest thing I could experience! By faith in what Scripture teaches, I know God has created me with free will... I can choose God's offer of relationship through Christ or reject the same. Sovereign, eternal God gives me the freedom to walk away. So...is my choice to accept/reject Jesus borne of free will if sovereign God knows how I will choose before I've made my choice? Think about that for a quick minute...and now we're back to sipping water from a gushing fire hydrant!

I am immensely appreciative of deeply spiritual men and women who have invested their lifetimes plumbing the depths of God's holiness, God's sovereignty, God's love, and every other aspect of God's character to which Scripture testifies who then take time to write down their insights and discoveries for the likes of people such as me! A.W. Tozer, in his book [The Knowledge of the Holy](#), shared this analogy to help form at least a rudimentary understanding of how man's free will and God's sovereignty are intermingled.

- “Man’s will is free because God is sovereign...perhaps a homely illustration might help us to understand. An ocean liner leaves New York bound for Liverpool. Its destination has been determined by proper authorities. Nothing can change it. This is at least a faint picture of sovereignty. On board the liner are several scores of passengers. These are not in chains, neither are their activities determined for them by decree. They are completely free to move about as they will. They eat, sleep, play, lounge about on the deck, read, talk, altogether as they please; but all the while the great liner is carrying them steadily onward toward a predetermined port. Both freedom and sovereignty are present here and they do not contradict each other. So it is, I believe, with man’s freedom and the sovereignty of God. The mighty liner of God’s sovereign design keeps its steady course over the sea of history. God moves undisturbed and unhindered toward the fulfillment of those eternal purposes which He purposed in Christ Jesus before the world began. We do not know all that is included in those purposes, but enough has been disclosed to furnish us with a broad outline of things to come and to give us good hope and firm assurance of future well-being.”

R.C. Sproul speaks to this stunning “man’s free will/God’s sovereignty” duality in one powerful sentence: “God’s sovereign will is not at the whim and mercy of our person and individual responses to it.” I’m thinking I need to end this article with a much simpler question: “When you exercise your free will Sunday morning, will your choice land you in Sunday school & Worship?” Cya, PK.