



## **Clear Bible Truth on God's Sovereignty - I**

### **God's Sovereignty Is Hated by Fallen Man**

“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?” (Psalms 2:1)

David's "vain thing" is this: men hate God's sovereignty. This revolt fills the thoughts of philosophers and theologians. Preachers speak of God's sovereignty, yet falsely intermingle it with man's sovereignty. This shrewd ploy was introduced by the most subtle "beast of the field" (Gen 3:1).

Notice the progression leading to man's despite for God's sovereignty.

1st, The serpent questioned God's word

"Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" (Gen 3:1) This may seem innocuous, but it was the first step to the horrors that have stained man's history. "O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven" (Psa 119:89).

2nd, The woman added to God's word

"Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Gen 3:3)

It wasn't touching but consuming that God gave warning (2:17). The serpent's liberty to question gave her boldness to augment God's word.

The scriptures conclude with a warning to those doing this (Rev 22:18-19).

3rd, The serpent denied God's word

"Ye shall not surely die" (Gen 3:4) The words stand as a direct and defiant contradiction to the divine threat. The suggestion is God wouldn't be so severe and rigid. Man persistently underestimates God's righteous ways.

4th, The serpent perverted God's word

"...ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Gen 3:5) This last step is the height of deception: "as gods". The devil promised self-rule and free-will. Our first parents desired this self-autonomy. They learned by doing evil; but, they forfeited liberty gaining sin's bondage. The fallen serpent promised power to know good; he didn't tell of the inability to resist evil.

The height of man's "rage" is imagining God's sovereignty and man's free-will are compatible. Salvation is altogether of sovereign grace: election before the world's foundation; justification by righteousness declared at the cross; effectual calling to repentance and faith in time and experience.

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