

THE REAL GOD
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SESSION #3
“SOVEREIGNTY” (23 minute video)

Session notes:

Defining the Sovereignty of God

Webster’s definition of sovereign: “Someone who is above all, who is superior, the greatest, the chief, the supreme power, the ranking authority. One without equal. One who is excellent. Someone who possesses absolute control.”

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, 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 your life today that He did not either allow or decree for your ultimate good.

How Does God Reveal His Sovereignty To Us?

Through His Titles

Sovereign Lord, Most High, Alpha and Omega, King of kings, Lord of lords

Through His promises

Romans 8:28-30; Philippians 2:9-11

Through Prophecy

Daniel 2:27; Isaiah 44:6-8; Daniel 7-12 (four kingdoms predicted)

Through Christ

His supernatural birth (Galatians 4:4; Matthew 2:3-6)

His perfect life (*fulfilled hundreds of prophecies*; Matthew 4:14; 12:15-21)

His Messianic teaching (John 8:48-58)

His willful death and resurrection (John 10:17-18)

His ultimate reign (Acts 1:9-11; Revelation 19:11-21)

Through Redeeming the Pain in our Lives

Genesis 37:1-50:20

How must we respond to a Sovereign God?

1. Bow before His Sovereignty

(Philippians 2:9-11)

Application: Absolute surrender of all you are and all you have.

2. Believe that all that comes into your life is either decreed or allowed by God

(Romans 8:28-29; Genesis 50:20)

Application: Absolutely refuse to worry.

3. Behold the majesty and sovereignty of God.

(Romans 11:33-36; Genesis 50:20)

Application: Worship God for who He is, not merely for what He has done.

Question #1 Can you remember a situation in your life where everything seemed completely and totally out of control? What was your view of God as you were going through this?

Question #2 Read Romans 1:33-36 - 33 *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!* 34 *“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”* 35 *“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”* 36 *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*

How should God’s sovereignty affect your worship?

Question #3 Read Matthew 6:25-34

25 *“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?”* 26 *Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?* 27 *And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?* 28 *And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,* 29 *yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.* 30 *But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?* 31 *Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’* 32 *For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.* 33 *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.* 34 *“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*

How should God’s sovereignty affect your thoughts and attitudes?

Question #4 Read Romans 8:28 - *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

And Genesis 50:20 - *As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.*

Can you remember a time in your life when you were surprised at how God could take something evil or difficult that you were facing and somehow work it for good?

Question #5 **How would you explain the connection of God’s Sovereignty and Man’s Free Will?**

Question #6 Read Revelation 19:11-15 - 11 *Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.* 12 *His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself.* 13 *He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.* 14 *And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.* 15 *From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron.*

What are some differences in the way that Jesus came into this world the first time contrasted with how He will come back the second time?

Question #7 **If a friend were to ask you the following question, how would you answer it: “If God were truly sovereign and good, then why would He allow for there to be pain, suffering, and evil in the world?”**

Question #8 **If you feel comfortable enough, share something in your life that you are worried or stressed about RIGHT NOW, but that you also know that need to trust in God’s Sovereignty and grace for.**