

Complete Sovereignty of God

God's ultimate plan is for everyone to fully understand and appreciate the greatness of his glory. He has created everything that exists and planned the movement of every single atom within his creation to accomplish this purpose.

We are going to look at the scriptures to see God's purpose for life and how he is working out that purpose. As you will see, God uses both good and evil to make everyone understand his greatness.

God Controls and plans everything

Isa 55:11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Isa 14:24 The LORD Almighty has sworn,

"Surely, as I have planned, so it will be,
and as I have purposed, so it will stand.

Pro 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

Pro 21:1 The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *as* the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

Psa 139:16 your eyes saw my unformed body.

All the days ordained for me
were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

Rom 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Rom 8:30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

God creates and uses Evil

Isa 45:7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil (H7451): I the LORD do all these *things*.

Gen 2:9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil (H7451).

Ecc 1:13 I applied my heart to inquiring and exploring by wisdom concerning all that is done under the heavens: it is an experience of evil (H7451) Elohim has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it.

Pro 16:4 The LORD has made everything for its own purpose,
Even the wicked for the day of evil (H7451).

Lam 3:38 Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil (H7451)I and good?

Amo 3:6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done *it*?

Eze 14:22 Yet behold, there shall be left in it a remnant who will be brought out, both sons and daughters; surely they will come out to you, and you will see their ways and their doings. Then you will be comforted concerning the disaster that I have brought upon Jerusalem, all that I have brought upon it.

Zec 8:8 I will bring them back,
And they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem.
They shall be My people
And I will be their God,
In truth and righteousness.'

Jer 36:3 It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

Jos 23:15 Therefore it shall come to pass, *that* as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

It is comforting knowing that God is in control of evil.

Isaiah 54:15 seems to be contradictory to the rest of scripture in many modern translations, here is an example from the ESV.

Isa 54:15 (ESV) If anyone stirs up strife, it is not from me; whoever stirs up strife with you shall fall because of you.

This is not the most accurate translation. Here is a literal translation from the Greek Septuagint aka the LXX.

15 Behold, strangers shall come to thee by me, and shall sojourn with thee, and shall run to thee for refuge.

Here is the translation from the CLV (Concordant Literal Version).

Isa 54:15 Behold! One shall sojourn, yea sojourn only because of Me, and who sojourns with you, to you shall fall."

The LXX and CLV both clearly state that God is the reason why these enemies are coming which agrees both this chapter 54 of Isaiah and the sum of scripture.

Isa 54:16 "See, it is I who created the blacksmith
who fans the coals into flame
and forges a weapon fit for its work.
And it is I who have created the destroyer to work havoc;

Isa 54:17 no weapon forged against you will prevail,
and you will refute every tongue that accuses you.
This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,
and this is their vindication from me,"
declares the LORD.

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

What is God's purpose?

Eph 1:11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Eph 1:12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Rom 9:20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed *it*, Why hast thou made me thus?

Rom 9:21 Hath not the **potter** power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

Rom 9:22 *What* if God, willing to shew *his* wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

Rom 9:23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

What is the truth?

Joh 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

What is life?

Joh 17:3 Now this is eternal (aionian) life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

How does he make his glory known?

Heb 1:3 The Son (Jesus) is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

2Co 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

1Jn 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

2Co 5:19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting

to us the message of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Who is going to know Jesus Christ?

1Co 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

1Co 15:23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

1Ti 2:3 For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

1Ti 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Knowing Jesus Christ is to know God. When we begin to truly know Jesus Christ, his power, his character, his majesty, then we will begin to understand and appreciate the greatness of God. The elect are given this knowledge first and then used to make God known to the rest of humanity.

How does God cause us to know Jesus Christ?

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make *it*.

Jer 18:6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay *is* in the potter's hand, so *are* ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

1Co 15:47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

1Co 15:48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.

1Co 15:49 Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

1Co 15:50 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

1Co 15:51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1Co 15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

1Co 15:53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

1Co 15:54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

1Co 15:55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

1Co 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

1Co 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eze 36:26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

1Jn 4:6 We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

1Jn 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

1Jn 4:8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1Jn 4:9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

Joh 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (Jesus speaking)

1Jn 5:19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

1Jn 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

We are created in sinful, corrupted flesh and do not obey God's commandments. Through Jesus Christ God gives us understanding and causes us to obey his commandments. Through this process we come to know Jesus Christ and through knowing Jesus Christ, we know God the Father and the greatness of his glory.

God wants us to know the difference between good and evil so we can make judgments. He is teaching us to be mature. The elect are the first to go through this process, and will then teach the rest of mankind.

Heb 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use (practice) have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

1Co 6:1 When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the

saints?

1Co 6:2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases?

1Co 6:3 Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!

Luk 17:3 Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him,

Tit 1:9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

Mat 7:1 "Judge not, that you be not judged.

Mat 7:2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.

Mat 7:3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

Mat 7:4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye?

God blinds and gives sight:

Joh 12:38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

Joh 12:39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again,

Joh 12:40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with *their* heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

Mar 4:11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all *these* things are done in parables:

Mar 4:12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and *their* sins should be forgiven them.

Act 26:14 (NIV) We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic,^[1] 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

(Goads were used to prod cattle and livestock forward, and they would frequently kick back at them, only causing themselves more injury.)

Act 26:15 "Then I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?'

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' the Lord replied.

Act 26:16 'Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you.

Act 26:17 I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them

Act 26:18 to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Joh 9:11 He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

Hardens hearts and gives new hearts:

Exo 4:21 The LORD said to Moses, "When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.

Exo 7:3 But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt,

Exo 7:4 he will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites.

Exo 7:5 And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it."

Exo 10:1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his officials so that I may perform these miraculous signs of mine among them

Exo 10:2 that you may tell your children and grandchildren how I dealt harshly with the Egyptians and how I performed my signs among them, and that you may know that I am the LORD."

Exo 14:4 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them. But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD." So the Israelites did this.

Eze 36:26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

God sends evil spirits and the Holy Spirit:

1Sa 16:14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

1Sa 16:15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

1Sa 19:9 And the evil spirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand; and David played with *his* hand.

1Sa 19:10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

Joh 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Joh 20:21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Joh 20:22 And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Strong Delusion and Revelation

2Th 2:11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

2Th 2:12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

2Th 2:9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

2Th 2:10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth.

(Rom 8:6... to be carnally minded is death)

Joh 14:6 Jesus is saying to him, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one is coming to the Father except through Me."

Eph 3:2 Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you,

Eph 3:3 that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly.

Eph 3:4 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

Eph 3:5 which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

Eph 3:6 This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

Our attitude knowing that God is sovereign and all is planned.

Job 2:10 But he replied, "You're talking like one of the godless women would do! Should we receive what is good from God, and not also receive what is evil?" In all this Job did not sin by what he said.

Php 2:12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,

Php 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Php 3:10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

Php 3:11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Php 3:12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Php 3:13 Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,

Php 3:14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Php 3:15 All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.

Php 3:16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

Jud 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness (filthiness), and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ

Rev 17:14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

Mat 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.