



Newsletter Article - June 2011

Sovereignty?

When the F5 Tornado hit Joplin on May 22nd with 200 miles per hour winds moving at 50 mph, the Sovereignty of God was questioned. Why did God allow or create this horrendous storm to damage our entire community and neighborhood? Is God punishing us, or what does this mean for us? These questions are natural. We might also ask why others lived while many lost their lives. For those who do not truly understand the sovereignty of God and may not be acquainted with the ways of God, they seek to tackle these questions and explain them without thoroughly searching scriptures. According to God's word, God reminds us that no one knows His mind. Therefore, no one will be able to understand why things happen in this life but God. God's ways are not our ways, and God thoughts are not our thoughts. Mathew's Gospel also reminds us the earth will experience birth pain (such as tornadoes, earthquakes, natural disasters) because we live in a fallen world, which was not how it was created by God. It was created as a paradise, but once sin entered the paradise, the earth's elements changed and continue to change each day according to how we care for our planet. Asking God questions is very natural and quite okay; your God is able to handle the questions and answers. There are many questions that I personally have for God, but I have learned that God answers each question in a unique way. The apostles that followed Jesus Christ even to the cross had some of these same questions. I am sure that their family members had the same questions after seeing the apostles buried after years of following Christ only to end up losing their very life.

The sovereignty of God means the supremacy of God, the kingship of God, the Godhood of God declaring that God is God whether there is a F5 storm or not. To say that God is sovereign is to declare that He is the Most High, God is the Almighty, the Possessor of all power in heaven and earth, so that none can defeat His counsels, thwart His purpose, or resist His will (Ps. 115:3). To say that God is sovereign is to declare that God is "The Governor among the nations" (Ps. 22:28), setting up kingdoms, overthrowing empires, and determining the course of dynasties as pleases God best. To say that God is sovereign is to declare that God is the "Only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords" (1 Tim. 6:15). Such is the God of the Bible. To say that God is Sovereign is to believe that God knows, loves, and welcomes you. Christ calms our heart as we depend on him for magnificent provisions. Christ's revelation is revealed in love and daily provisions. As we recover from our recent loss, allow Jesus Christ's encompassing love and resources to provide magnificent provisions.

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, God called him ... Dad

By Unknown Author

Happy Father's Day to all Dad's