

The Sovereignty of God in Salvation

God's Sovereign Right and Providence in Salvation in Human History

Romans 9:19-26

In today's text, **9:19-26**, Paul explains that **God owns** the **sovereign right** over His **creatures** to **dispense wrath** or **mercy** to them for **His own purposes**. He does this in order to **make Himself known** to some who become His **own beloved** family. **God's justice** is **never** to be **questioned**, rather **He** is to be **feared as God**, His **judgment avoided** at **all costs** and his **mercy** to be **received**. Through the **ages** God patiently **endures sinners** in **His world** in order **reveal His glory** to those He has **mercy** upon. God **dispenses** His **mercy** to whomever He wills which includes many **Gentiles**, who were not **originally His people**, but who have become **God's own beloved** people.

In today's text **Romans 9:19-26** we will see...

- **9:19-21 - God's Sovereign Right**
- **9:22-24 - God's Sovereign Providence**
- **9:25-26 – God's Beloved People**

Romans 9:18 - 18 So then **He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires.** NASB

Psalm 115:3 - 3 But our **God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases.** NASB

the Gentiles, to make them jealous. 12 Now if their transgression be riches for the world and their failure be riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be! NASB

Galatians 6:14-15 - 14 But **may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.** 15 For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. NASB

Matthew 10:28 - 28 "And do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but **rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.** NASB

Romans 8:1-3 - 1 There is **therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.** 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. NASB

1 John 3:1-3 - 3 See **how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God;** and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. **We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.** 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. NASB

Psalm 135:5-6 – 5 For I know that **the Lord is great, And that our Lord is above all gods. 6 Whatever the Lord pleases, He does, In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps.** NASB

Daniel 4:34-35 - 34 "But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I **blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 "And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand Or say to Him, 'What hast Thou done?'** NASB

Ephesians 2:4-7 - 4 **But God, being rich in mercy,** because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up with Him, **and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.** NASB

Romans 11:11-12 - 7 What then? **That which Israel is seeking for, it has not obtained,** but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened 11 I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! **But by their transgression salvation has come to**

PROVIDENCE – From Nelson’s Bible Dictionary

The continuous activity of God in His creation by which He preserves and governs. The doctrine of providence affirms God's absolute lordship over His creation and confirms the dependence of all creation on the Creator. It is the denial of the idea that the universe is governed by chance or fate.

Through His providence God controls the universe (Ps 103:19); the physical world (Matt 5:45); the affairs of nations (Ps 66:7); man's birth and destiny (Gal 1:15); man's successes and failures (Luke 1:52); and the protection of His people (Ps 4:8).

God preserves all things through His providence (1 Sam 2:9; Acts 17:28). Without His continual care and activity the world would not exist. God also preserves His people through His providence (Gen 28:15; Luke 21:18; 1 Cor 10:13; 1 Peter 3:12).

Divine government is the continued activity of God by which He directs all things to the ends He has chosen in His eternal plan. God is King of the universe who has given Christ all power and authority to reign (Matt 28:18-20; Acts 2:36; Eph 1:20-23). He governs insignificant things (Matt 10:29-31), apparent accidents (Prov 16:33), as well as man's good (Phil 2:13) and evil deeds (Acts 14:16).

God acts in accordance with the laws and principles that He has established in the world. The laws of nature are nothing more than man's description of how we perceive God at work in the world. They neither have inherent power nor do they work by themselves.

Man is not free to choose and act independently from God's will and plan; he chooses and acts in accordance with them. In His sovereignty, God controls man's choices and actions (Gen 45:5; Deut 8:18; Prov 21:1). God's actions, however, do not violate the reality of human choice or negate man's responsibility as a moral being.