

Bible Extra Extra

**Praying to a sovereign God
without being a fatalist**

Part 1

**EVERYTHING
HAPPENS FOR A
REASON**

- **God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.**
- **Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill
He treasures up His bright designs
And works His sovereign will.**
- **Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.**

Truly God claims omnipotence to himself, and would have us to acknowledge it. Not an omnipotence which may only act as a general principle of confused motion, as in ordering a stream to keep within the channel once prescribed to it, but one which is intent on individual and special movements. God is deemed omnipotent, not because he can act though he may cease or be idle, or because by a general instinct he continues the order of nature previously appointed; but because, governing heaven and earth by his providence, he so overrules all things that nothing happens without his counsel.

If one falls among robbers, or ravenous beasts; if a sudden gust of wind at sea causes shipwreck; if one is struck down by the fall of a house or a tree; if another, when wandering through desert paths, meets with deliverance; or, after being tossed by the waves, arrives in port, and makes some wondrous hair—breadth escape from death — all these occurrences, prosperous as well as adverse, are governed by the secret counsel of God.

“Some mothers have full and abundant breasts, but others are almost dry, as God wills to feed one more liberally but another more meagrely.”

“God, by his secret bridle, so holds and governs them that they cannot move even one of their fingers without accomplishing the work of God much more than their own.”

“God, by holding Satan fast bound in obedience to his providence, turns him whither-so-ever he will.”

Calvin:

“All are not created on equal terms, but some are preordained to eternal life, others to eternal damnation.”

“Predestination we call the eternal decree of God, by which He hath determined in Himself what He would have to become of every individual of mankind. For they are not all created with a similar destiny; but eternal life is foreordained for some, and eternal damnation for others.”

Calvin

“God, by his eternal and immutable counsel determined once and for all both whom He would admit to salvation, and whom He would condemn to destruction...”

Isa 46:10

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'

Dan 4:35

"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 have You done?'

Rom 9:19-21

You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?" On the contrary, who are you, O man, who answers back to God? Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?" Does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for noble use and another for common use?

1 Chron 29:11

"Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O LORD, and You exalt Yourself as head over all.

Mt 10:29-30

"Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

2 Chron 20:6

“O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you.”

Gen 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.”

Eph 1:11

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.

Psa 135:6

Whatever the LORD pleases, He does, In
heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all
deeps.

Psa 139:16

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

Proverbs 16:4,9,33

“The Lord works out everything for his own ends – even the wicked for a day of disaster”

“The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord determines his steps.”

“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.”

BUT...

1 Jn 5:19

the whole world is under the control of the
evil one.

Mt 23:37

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.”

Mk 6:5-6

He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Acts 7:51

“You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit!

Luke 7:30

But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves

Psa 78:41 (KJV)

Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and
limited the Holy One of Israel.

Heb 2:8

“Yet, at present, we do not see everything
subject to him”

Jer 18:7-10

If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.