

The Sovereignty of God

The Sovereignty and Supremacy of God

*“Being predestinated according to the purpose of him who works **all things** after the counsel of his own will:” – Ephesians 1:11*

3. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. 4. For **he chose us in him before the creation of the world** to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5. **he predestined us** to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, **in accordance with his pleasure and will** -- 6. to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. 7. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace 8. that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. 9. And he made known to us the **mystery of his will according to his good pleasure**, which **he purposed in Christ**, 10. to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. 11. **In him we were also chosen**, having been **predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything (all things) in conformity with the purpose of his will**.

Few things upset people as much as messing with what they consider to be theirs. Ownership has its privileges. I have stated on many occasions that there are hot buttons that make people mad, or about which people get mad, as I have preached now for some 35 years. They are 1) Tithing – its my money and I will do as I want to. 2) Divorce – Its my life and I will live it as I chose to. 3) Sovereignty of God – It is my free will and I will do what I choose to do. Now we must ask ourselves what is it about these three items that excites people with such emotion? What is the common denominator? The answer, I think, is self-determination. The self-ownership, that is, the need to own, control, or be in charge of what is our own, **our lives**. In other words, “I’ll do what I want with my life, my money, my marriage, or my mind. No one controls me or tells me what to do.”

I did not grow up in a Calvinistic church. I did not grow up ever hearing about the Sovereignty of God. It seems inevitable that those doing the leading and preaching in our churches were convinced in the sovereignty of man’s will over the sovereignty of God.

I was 36 years old before I began to explore the sovereignty of God. It was upon the occasion of our daughter’s accidental death when she was run over by a car in Brazil. That event began my mental exploration into this hidden truth. It seemed to me that if God were in control such things would not happen. Or if such events happened at the will of Satan or the whim of fate or the luck of the draw, then God was not really in charge of anything at all. It brought me to a crisis of faith. It was in the depths of that crisis that I began to explore this deep

and wondrous truth just to understand what was happening when it appeared that all was chaos and lost. It was really precipitated by one particular Scripture in my personal study as I sought to sort out why God was punishing me in this tragedy:

Daniel 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Let me suggest some **important books** on the subject both pro sovereignty and anti-sovereignty (human will).

Arthur W. Pink, *The Sovereignty of God*
R.C. Sproul, *Almighty Over All*
Norman Geisler, *Chosen But Free*
James R. White's rebuttal, *The Potter's Freedom*
J I Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*
John Piper's, *Sermons* (www.desiringgod.org)
Martin Luther – *The Bondage of the Will*

It seems to me that any serious student of God and his word will want to seriously look into these things.

<http://www.pbministries.org/books/pink/Sovereignty/sovereignty.htm>

- A. W. Pink's online The Sovereignty of God

<http://www.reformed.org/books/pink/>

- Center for Reformed Theology and Apologetics

http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Sermons/ByDate/2002/110_The_Absolute_Sovereignty_of_God_What_Is_Romans_Nine_About/

- Absolute Sovereignty of God in Romans 9 – John Piper

Is God Really Sovereign Over All?

Does God do everything and work out every things according to the purpose of his will?

Is God Sovereign Or Not?

Is God Sovereign Or Not?

I want to explore this deep theme of the mystery and glory we call “The Sovereignty of God,” for it is the linchpin of everything Paul will have to say in the next three chapters. If you do not get this, you will not get the rest.

Here is the question as a statement: “God is sovereign.” True, or false? Yes, or no? A typical answer is avoidance or yes and no. Yes, in some things he is sovereign, and no in other things he is not. But the word “sovereign” means sovereign. There is no room for two sovereigns. He cannot be sovereign only in a few things. If so, then he is not sovereign. He is just a potentate, a king, but not totally sovereign. If God is sovereign over worms, but not over caterpillars, is he sovereign? No. If God is not absolutely sovereign then he has relinquished his sovereignty to someone else. He has abdicated his throne.

I want to show you the biblical proofs, the preponderance of evidence that God is Sovereign over all.

I. What Is Sovereignty

A Definition

This simply refers to the fact that all things are under His rule and control, and that nothing happens in this Universe without His direction or permission.

He is a God Who works, not just some things, but all things after the counsel of His own will (see Eph. 1:11).

God's purpose is all- inclusive and is never thwarted (see Isa. 46:11).

Nothing Takes Him by Surprise

Definition of Sovereignty as Pertaining to God

"That the great God, blessed for ever, hath an absolute power and right dominion over his creatures, to dispose and determine of them as seems good to him. – Elisha Coles, God's Sovereignty."

"It is not merely that God has the power and right to govern all things but that He does so always and without exception." - John Piper

Scriptural Truths of Sovereignty

- ?? God is sovereign over the entire universe: Ps 103:19; Rom 8:28; Eph 1:11
- ?? God is sovereign over all of nature: Ps 135:6-7; Mt 5:45; 6:25-30
- ?? God is sovereign over angels & Satan: Ps 103:20-21; Job 1:12
- ?? God is sovereign over nations: Ps 47:7-9; Dan 2:20-21; 4:34-35
- ?? God is sovereign over human beings: 1 Sam 2:6-7; Gal 1:15-16
- ?? God is sovereign over animals: Ps 104:21-30; 1 Kings 17:4-6
- ?? God is sovereign over "accidents": Pr 16:33; Jonah 1:7; Mt 10:29
- ?? God is sovereign over free acts of men: Ex 3:21; 12:25-36; Ez 7:27
- ?? God is sovereign over sinful acts of men and Satan: 2 Sam 24:1; 1 Chr 21:1; Gen 45:5; 50:20

<http://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/topic/sovereignty.html>

See List of Scriptures – OT and NT

Old Testament		New Testament
<p>Deut 32:4 Numbers 23:19 I Chronicles 29:11-12 II Chron 20:6 Job 23:13 Job 42:2</p> <p>Isaiah 45:9 Isaiah 46:9-11 Is 54:10 Is 55:8 Jeremiah 18:3-6 Lamentations 4:2 Isaiah 55:8 Dan 2:20-21 Daniel 4:35 Mal 3:6</p>	<p>Ps 2:4, 9 Ps 31:15 Ps 33:11 Ps 47:7-9 Ps 50:21 Psalm 103:19-22 Ps 104:21-30 Psalm 115:3 Psalm 135:5-7 Proverbs 16:9 Proverbs 16:33 Proverbs 21:1 Prov 21:30</p>	<p>Mt 5:45 Mt 6:25-30 Mt 10:29 -30 Romans 8:28 Romans 9:20 Romans 11:29 Romans 11:36 2 Corinthians 5:18 Ephesians 1:9 Ephesians 1:11 Ephesians 2:8-10 Ephesians 3:11 Hebrews 6:17 James 1:17 James 1:18 James 4:13, 15 Revelation 4:10-11 Revelation 17:17</p>

He is Sovereign over all.

He is sovereign over creation, matter, anti-matter, the sun, the moon, the planets, meteors, asteroids, stars, universes, time, and space, animals, weather, earthquakes, volcanoes, tornadoes, cyclones, hurricanes, typhoons, monsoons, tsunami waves, storms, floods, wind, seas, rivers, lightning, thunder, snow, sleet, and hail, avalanches, mudslides, forest fires, fog, ice, heat and droughts, cold and icebergs.

He is sovereign over angels, principalities, fallen angels, devils, the devil Satan, evil men, evil kingdoms, pharaohs, emperors, kings, monarchs, presidents, dictators, tsars, terrorists, war lords, revolutionaries, thieves, drug traffickers, wicked men and women, heathen nations, cannibals, *Auca Indians*, and raging mobs. (Caesars Augustus, Nero, Idi Amin, Hitler, Mouselini, Mao Se Tung, Cruchev, Kim Jong II, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Sadam Husein, Saddam Hussein, Abu Musab al Zarqawi, and all the host of mini-potentates)

He is sovereign over all diseases, infections, influenzas, epidemics, plagues, HIV, bird flu, deer ticks, cancer, tumors, Multiple Sclerosis, Lou Gehrig's disease, Alzheimer's, dementia, nervous breakdowns, schizophrenia, bi-polar diseases, diabetes, skin diseases, leprosy, heart attacks, cholesterol, microscopic killer viruses.

He is sovereign over all plants (poison ivy or pussy willows) healing medicines, plants, herbs, antibiotics, animals (whales and worms, stingrays and songbirds, mice and mammoths,) vegetables, minerals (gold, silver, precious stones), mountains, molehills, etc.

He is sovereign over all accidents, injuries, traffic accidents, sports injuries, athletic competitions, coin tosses, and flips of cards, lotteries, drawing of straws, and bets on horses or prize fights.

They were all made by him, and for him, and for his pleasure they were created. He holds them together by the word of his power and by him they consist.

OK, Pastor So God is Sovereign. So What?

What does that mean to me?

II. What It Does Not Mean

Does that mean there is no free will? No, not at all. Men are free (within God's sovereign plan) to do whatever their hearts desire. And for this they will be brought into judgment. Know however that man's will, however powerful it may seem to be, can never thwart or hinder God's predisposed, purposes and plans. Man is free as far as he himself is concerned. That is to his perceptions he does what he chooses, he decides, he dictates, he rules his life. Yet God has said he can do no good at all, he cannot repent, believe, receive eternal life of his own accord for his will is fallen, his nature is depraved, his will is enslaved to Satan's kingdom. (Eph 2:1-2)

III. What It Does Mean

What the Sovereignty of God does mean is that God is in control and responsible for everything. He never slumbers nor sleeps. He is never caught by surprise. He is never check-mated. He is never stumped. He is never out maneuvered, out smarted, befuddled, confused or worried. Why? Because, **“He works all things according to the purpose of his will.”**

That means I can trust him. He is in control. Satan is not in control. Accidents, diseases, the weather, Mother Nature, or dumb luck is not in control. Thus I can trust him. I can rest in him. I can go to him with my needs, he already knows about it. I can hang on to him; whatever happens is in his plans for **his glory and my good.**

Conclusion

Why Is It Important?

That means I can make sense of Scriptures when He says:

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

I Thessalonians 5:18

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Therefore, I can

Therefore, I do not know what tomorrow holds, but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know he holds my hand.

And Now You Know! The rest of the story!

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

Philippians 2:13 For it is God which works in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.

Paul's 1st Prayer

Eph 3:16-19

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17. so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18. may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19. and to know this love that surpasses knowledge -- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Paul's 2nd Prayer

Eph. 1:17-19

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Old Testament

Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Deut 32:4

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

I Chronicles 29:11-12 Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and You art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and You reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

II Chron 20:6

"O LORD, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you.

Job 23:13

"But he stands alone, and who can oppose him? He does whatever he pleases.

Job 42:2

"I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.

Ps 2:4, 9

4. The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. 9. You will rule them with an iron scepter ; you will dash them to pieces like pottery."

Ps 31:15

My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me.

Ps 33:11

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Ps 47:7-9

7 For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. 8 God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

Ps 50:21

21. These things you have done and I kept silent; you thought I was altogether like you. But I will rebuke you and accuse you to your face.

Psalm 103:19-22 The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. 20 Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. 21 Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. 22 Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Ps 104:21-30

21 The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God. 22 The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens. 23 Then man goes out to his work, to his labor until evening. 24 How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. 25 There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number-- living things both large and small. 26 There the ships go to and fro, and the leviathan, which you formed to frolic there. 27 These all look to you to give them their food at the proper time. 28 When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

Psalm 115:3 But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased

Psalm 135:5-7 For I know that the LORD *is* great, and *that* our Lord *is* above all gods. 6 Whatsoever the LORD pleased, *that* did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places. 7 He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth; he sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

Proverbs 16:9

In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.

Proverbs 21:1

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

Prov 21:30

There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the LORD.

Isaiah 45:9

Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! *Let* the potsherd *strive* with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

Isaiah 46:9-11

I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: 11 Calling a ravenous bird

from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken *it*, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed *it*, I will also do it.

Is 54:10

Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Is 55:8

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. 9. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 18:3-6 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. 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. Then the word of the Lord came to me saying, 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.

Lamentations 4:2 The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Dan 2:20-21

20 "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. 21 He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. 22 He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.

Daniel 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Mal 3:6

"I the LORD do not change.

New Testament

Matthew 5:45

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Matthew 6:25-30

26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Matthew 10:29 -30

29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. 30 But the very [hairs of your head](#) are all numbered.

Romans 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.

Romans 9:20 Nay but, O man, who art You that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast You made me thus? 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? 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: 23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

Romans 11:29

for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

Romans 11:36

36 For of him, and through him, and to him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen.

2 Corinthians 5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

Ephesians 1:9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

Ephesians 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Ephesians 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

Ephesians 2: 8-10 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Hebrews 6:17

Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. 18. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.

James 1:17

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

James 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

James 4:13, 15

13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away. 15 For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

Revelation 4:10-11 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 11 You art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for You hast created all things, and **for thy pleasure they are and were created.**

Revelation 17:17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST IN ALL THINGS

By John Piper September 26, 2004 | *Sex and the Supremacy of Christ*

Oh, that the risen, living Christ, therefore, would come to us (even now) by his Spirit and through his Word and reveal to us

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *deity*, equal with God the Father in all his attributes—the radiance of his glory and the exact imprint of his nature, infinite, boundless in all his excellencies;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *eternality* that makes the mind of man explode with the unsearchable thought that Christ never had a beginning, but simply always was; sheer, absolute reality while all the universe is fragile, contingent, like a shadow by comparison to his all-defining, ever-existing substance;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his never-changing *constancy* in all his virtues and all his character and all his commitments—the same yesterday, today, and forever;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *knowledge* that makes the Library of Congress look like a matchbox, and all the information on the Internet look like a little 1940's farmers almanac, and quantum physics—and everything Stephen Hawking ever dreamed—seem like a first-grade reader;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *wisdom* that has never been perplexed by any complication and can never be counseled by any being in the universe - the wisest of men;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *authority* over heaven and earth and hell, without whose permission no man and no demon can move one inch, (no changes with him) who changes times and seasons, removes kings and sets up kings; does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; so none can stay his hand or say to him, “What have you done?” (Daniel 4:35)

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *providence* without which not a single bird falls to the ground in the furthest reaches of the Amazon forest, had ever fallen off any limb, or a single hair of any head turns black or white;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *word* that moment by moment upholds the universe and holds in being all the galaxies, molecules and atoms and subatomic world we have never yet dreamed of;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *power* to walk on water, cleanse lepers and heal the lame, open the eyes of the blind, cause the deaf to hear

and storms to cease and the dead to rise, with a single word, or even a thought; “Lazarus come forth.”

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *purity* never to sin, (he never sinned) or to have one millisecond of a bad attitude or an evil, lustful thought;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *trustworthiness* never to break his word or let one promise fall to the ground; absolutely without fail.

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *justice* to render in due time all moral accounts in the universe settled either on the cross or in hell; No injustice will remain.

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *patience* to endure our dullness for decade after decades; and to hold back his final judgment on this land and on the world, that many might repent; Can you imagine why the sun rose on this wicked city?

— **We must know** the supremacy of his sovereign, servant *obedience* to keep his Father’s commandments perfectly and then embrace the excruciating pain of the cross willingly;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *meekness* and lowliness and tenderness that will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering (flax) wick;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *wrath* that one day it will explode against this world from heaven with such fierceness that people will call out for the rocks and the mountains to crush them rather than face the wrath of the Lamb; When I look at the beheadings in Iran and Iraq and I hear someone say “Where is your God?” He is in heaven storing up wrath against the day of wrath.

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *grace* that gives life to spiritually dead rebels (like us) and wakens faith in hell-bound haters of God, and justifies the ungodly with his own righteousness;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his *love* that willingly dies for us even while we were sinners and frees us for the ever-increasing joy in making much of him forever;

— **We must know** the supremacy of his own inexhaustible *gladness* in the fellowship of the Trinity, the infinite power and infinite energy, infinite joy, that gave rise to all the universe and will one day be the inheritance of every struggling saint; **Press on to know the Lord!**

And if he would grant us to know him like this, it would be but the outskirts of his supremacy. **Time would fail to speak of the supremacy of his severity**, and

invincibility, and dignity, and simplicity, and complexity, and resoluteness, and calmness, and depth, and courage. If there is anything admirable, if there is anything worthy of praise anywhere in the universe, it is summed up supremely in Jesus Christ.

He is supreme in every admirable way over everything:

- ?? He is supreme over galaxies and endless reaches of space;
- ?? He is supreme over the earth from the top of Mount Everest 29,000 feet up, to the bottom of the Pacific Ocean 36,000 feet down into the Mariana Trench;
- ?? He is sovereign over all, supreme over all plants and animals, from the peaceful Blue Whale to the microscopic killer viruses;
- ?? He is supreme over all weather and movements of the earth: hurricanes, tornadoes, monsoons, earthquakes, avalanches, floods, snow, rain, sleet;
- ?? He is supreme over all chemical processes that heal and destroy: cancer, AIDS, malaria, flu, and all the workings of antibiotics and a thousand healing medicines.
- ?? He is supreme over all countries and all governments and all armies;
- ?? He is supreme over Al Qaeda and all terrorists and kidnappings and suicide bombings and beheadings;
- ?? He is supreme over bin Ladin and al-Zarqawi;
- ?? He is supreme over all nuclear threats from Iran or Russia or North Korea.
- ?? He is supreme over all politics and elections;
- ?? He is supreme over all media and news and entertainment and sports and leisure;
- ?? He is supreme over all education and universities and scholarship and science and research;
- ?? He is supreme over all business and finance and industry and manufacturing and transportation;
- ?? He is supreme over all the Internet and information systems.

As Abraham Kuyper used to say, **“there is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, ‘Mine!’”**^[1] **And I rule it and I am supreme over it.** And rule with absolute supremacy.

And though it may not seem so now, it is only a matter of time until he comes with his angels in flaming glory, and is revealed from heaven in flaming fire to give relief to those who trust him and righteous vengeance on those who don't.

Oh, that the almighty God would help us see and savor the supremacy of his Son. Give yourself to this. Study this. Cultivate this passion. Eat and drink and sleep this quest to know the supremacy of Christ. Pray for God to show you these things in his Word. **Swim in the Bible every day**. Use the means of grace. Like God-centered, Christ-exalting books.