

## **RESISTING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY**

Ephesians 4:4-6 ... "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

Today's passages from Ephesians, plus many others throughout the Bible, state that God is supreme and in control of his creation, which is the definition of "sovereignty." I am confident that most of the readers of this devotional believe that and are happy it is true. However, not everyone is willing to accept that God is in control. They insist on making themselves supreme and in control of their little worlds – the environment in which they live. This is what keeps many people from loving, serving, and honoring God. They insist on trying to control their own lives

Even if you are a follower of Christ you may, at times, resist God's sovereignty or control. It is a natural part of our character to resist authority. Children do it routinely. Prisons are full of people who resisted authority. Entire countries, such as North Korea, resist God's sovereignty and worship instead, their self-appointed leader. You can resist God's control all you want, but it does not change the fact that he, indeed, is in charge. Your resistance to God only makes your life more difficult and miserable.

People in jail and prison have learned the hard way that their resistance to laws did not change the laws. And, people who follow false religions will eventually learn the hard way that their resistance to the one true God did not spare them from judgment.

The lesson I want you to learn today, is that God sees and knows your hardship and pain. The discouragement or disappointment you are feeling right now, did not catch God by surprise. The death of your loved one that has paralyzed you with grief, was planned by God from the moment of creation. The loneliness you are feeling has been allowed by God to show you he is sovereign and to teach you to trust him. There is nothing you can do on your own to take control of your life away from God, without suffering serious consequences. God's will is for you to: 1) Obey him, 2) submit to him, and 3) learn from your mistakes and the unfortunate experiences you will have throughout your lifetime. Ecclesiastes 3:11 reads: "He [God] has made everything beautiful in its time." In God's time you will better understand the suffering you are experiencing today and then you will rejoice that God was in control, and be grateful for the important lessons you learned along the way. Resisting God's control makes your suffering greater and, perhaps, permanent.

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