

“THE BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW OF COVID-19”
ROMANS 11:33-36

INTRO: *WHY IS GOD ALLOWING COVID-19 TO CONTINUE? DOESN'T GOD KNOW HE IS MAKING IT DIFFICULT ON HUMANITY? DOESN'T GOD KNOW THAT MANY WILL BECOME SICK AND DIE? DOES GOD KNOW WHAT HE IS DOING? IS GOD IN CHARGE OR IS THE WORLD OUT OF CONTROL?* The answer to those questions is that **GOD IS ALLOWING COVID-19 FOR A PURPOSE. HE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT HE IS DOING. HE KNOWS WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE. HE IS IN CHARGE. AND WHEN HE IS READY, GOD WILL BRING COVID-19 TO AN END AND HE WILL BE GLORIFIED.** Let's take some time this morning to explain all of this.

A FACT: The answer to COVID-19 is found in the PROVIDENCE OF GOD.

AN OBSERVATION: The text of Romans 11:33-36 has a lot to say about the PROVIDENCE OF GOD. This text is really a DOXOLOGY emphasizing the GREATNESS OF GOD.

- “O the Depths of the Riches” – The “Riches of God” speaks of the **GREAT VALUE OF ALL GOD IS AND POSSESSES.** The Depth of God's RICHES is beyond our ability to comprehend.
- “The Wisdom and Knowledge of God” – **The Omniscience of God.** – The complete **KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, HE KNOWS ALL THINGS.**
- “The Judgments of God” – **The Purposes of God.** – They are **UNSEARCHABLE**, that is **BEYOND HUMAN UNDERSTANDING.**
- “The Ways of God” – **The Methods God chooses to accomplish His purposes.** – They are **PAST FINDING OUT, KNOWN ONLY TO GOD.**

GOD'S WAYS ARE SO GREAT AND SO HIGH, THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HUMANITY TO UNDERSTAND THE FULNESS OF HIS PURPOSES AND DOINGS. Isaiah 55:8,9 says: “For **MY THOUGHTS** are not **YOUR THOUGHTS**, neither are **YOUR WAYS MY WAYS**, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are **MY WAYS** higher than **YOUR WAYS**, and **MY THOUGHTS** than **YOUR THOUGHTS.**”

A NUGGET OF THE BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW: What God does through His **PROVIDENTIAL SOVEREIGNTY** in fulfilling His purposes is **FAR BEYOND OUR UNDERSTANDING.** But by **FAITH**, we **ACCEPT AND KNOW** that **HE IS ALWAYS RIGHT**

I. THE REALITY OF THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

A. The Providence of God is **THE CONTINUAL ACTIVITY OF GOD WHEREBY HE MAKES ALL THE EVENTS OF THE PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL, EMOTIONAL, MENTAL AND MORAL REALMS OF THE UNIVERSE WORK OUT FOR HIS PERFECT PURPOSE AND FOR HIS GLORY.**

B. Even though evil has entered the universe, it **IS NOT ALLOWED TO** and **CANNOT** thwart God's original, wise and holy purpose.

II. THE RELEVANCE OF THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

**EVERY ASPECT OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE IS RELEVANT TO MANKIND ALL OF THE TIME
ACCORDING TO THE BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW.**

A. The Preventative Providence of God – 1 Corinthians 10:13

-God Prevents some things from Happening-

B. The Permissive Providence of God – Acts 14:16

-God Allows some things to Happen-

C. The Directive Providence of God – Acts 2:23

-God Directs all Things to Happen-

D. The Restrictive Providence of God – Job 1:12

-God Limits all Things in Happening-

III. THE RESPONSE TO THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

WE ALL ARE OBLIGATED BEFORE GOD TO RESPOND TO HIS PROVIDENCE ACCORDING TO THE BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW.

A. We Must TRUST God's Providence

GOD WILL ALWAYS DO RIGHT TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSE!

- A look at the Flood of Noah – Genesis 6

B. We must SUBMIT to God's Providence

RESISTING GOD IS DISOBEDIENCE AND BRINGS TROUBLE!

- A look at the Plight of Jonah – Jonah 1

C. We must REJOICE in God's Providence

REJOICING WILL BRING SPIRITUAL VICTORY

- A look at Paul and Silas in Jail – Acts 16

D. We must GLORY in God's Providence

PRAISE AND WORSHIP HIM FOR HIS DOINGS

- A look at Job – Job 1

LESSON/APPLICATION

It is NOT for us to always know and understand what God is CAUSING, ALLOWING AND DIRECTING. But it is OURS TO ACCEPT, IN FAITH, ALL THAT GOD IS CAUSING, ALLOWING AND DIRECTING WITHOUT DOUBT AND REBELLION. ROMANS 8:28