

Lesson 1: Understanding God's Sovereignty

Objective: Define God's sovereignty and explore its biblical foundation.

Key Verse:

- **Psalm 103:19**
 - *KJV*: “The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.”
 - *AMP*: “The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, And His sovereignty rules over all [the universe].”
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Warmup Questions:

1. Have you ever experienced a time when you felt like things were out of control, but later you saw how everything worked out?
 2. What does the word "sovereignty" make you think of? How would you define it?
 3. Why do you think it's important to understand God's rule over the universe?
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I. Definition of God's Sovereignty

- **Strong's Concordance (H4474 – מְלִכּוּת “malkuwth”)** – *Royal power, dominion, reign, kingship.*
 - **Definition:** God has absolute power, authority, and control over all things. Nothing happens outside His knowledge and will.
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II. Supporting Scriptures:

1. **Psalm 115:3**
 - *KJV*: “But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.”
 - *AMP*: “But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.”
2. **Daniel 4:35**

- *KJV*: "...he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth..."
- *AMP*: "...He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth... no one can hold back His hand..."

3. Romans 11:36

- *KJV*: "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."
- *AMP*: "For from Him all things originate, and through Him all things live, and to Him are all things directed. To Him be glory and honor forever! Amen."

III. Biblical Example: Joseph (Genesis 50:20)

- *KJV*: "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good..."
- *AMP*: "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good..."
- *Lesson*: God's sovereign plan turned betrayal into blessing.

IV. Scientific Example: Universal Laws

- The precise balance of gravity, oxygen, and planetary orbit testifies to divine control.
- *Lesson*: The universe operates under divine order, not chance.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean for God to be sovereign over your life?
2. How does knowing that God is in control affect your fears and worries?
3. Can you think of an example in your life where you saw God's plan working, even when things seemed uncertain?