

## **“What Kind of God Do You Want?” Thoughts On the Sovereignty of God**

### **The Story of Jonah:**

Job 23:13

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

Psalms 115:3

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.

Psalms 135:6

The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.

Proverbs 21:1

The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD ; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases.

Daniel 4:35

...He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?"

Job 1:21

...The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."

### **1. The D\_\_\_\_\_ of God's Sovereignty**

Jonah 1:4

Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up.

Jonah 1:17

But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 2:10

And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Jonah 4:6

Then the LORD God provided a vine and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the vine.

Jonah 4:7

But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the vine so that it withered.

Jonah 4:8

When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."

## 2. The E\_\_\_\_\_ of God's Sovereignty

As seen in...

### a. The R\_\_\_\_\_ of the Ninevites.

Jonah 3:1,2

<sup>1</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: <sup>2</sup>"Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."

Jonah 3:4-10

<sup>4</sup>...[Jonah] proclaimed: "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned." <sup>5</sup>The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. <sup>6</sup>When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. <sup>7</sup>Then he issued a proclamation in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let any man or beast, herd or flock, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. <sup>8</sup>But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. <sup>9</sup>Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish." <sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

As seen in...

### b. The R\_\_\_\_\_ of the Sailors

Jonah 1:5

All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god...

Jonah 1:14-16

<sup>14</sup>Then they cried to the LORD, "O LORD, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, O LORD, have done as you pleased." (*Notice that the sailors are quick to see the lesson that Jonah was slow to learn (1:14): "...for you, O Lord, have done as you pleased." There it is. The sovereign freedom of God to do as he pleases.*) <sup>15</sup>Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. <sup>16</sup>At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him.

## 3. The M\_\_\_\_\_ of God's Sovereignty

Jonah 3:9,10

<sup>9</sup>Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish." <sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

Jonah 4:11

...Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?"

Exodus 33:19

"...I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."