



Sovereignty Happens

Genesis 42:1-50:26

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

The Bible is about the providential hand of God that has directed every detail in history. From creation to Christ, from the universe to you, God superintends every event. He has the “*whole world in His hands.*”

We call this **the sovereignty of God**. As King of the universe, God reigns over everything. So when “stuff happens” (sin, temptation, injustice etc.), God’s purposes are still being accomplished. In all his pain, injustice, heartache, and suffering, Joseph learns that God’s will was being accomplished.

And it is true for us too. Every event in our lives serves the sovereign purposes of God. For this reason, **you can rest in the sovereignty of God**. Why should you rest in the sovereignty of God? There are **four tremendous benefits** in resting in the sovereignty of God

I. You can let God change others for you

1. God will vindicate Genesis 42:6
2. God will convict Genesis 42:21, 28
3. God will renovate Genesis 42:36-38; 43:6; 44:16-34

II. You can accept what happened to you

1. God will release your heart Genesis 45:1-5, 11, 15, 20
2. God will make sense of the confusion Genesis 45:5, 7
3. God will work for His glory Genesis 47:1-28

III. You can trust the God who blesses you

1. God will provide for you Genesis 45:5, 7
2. God will lead you Genesis 46:1-7, 29-31

IV. You can forgive those who wronged you

1. God will right the wrongs Genesis 50:15-19, 21
2. God will accomplish His purpose Genesis 50:20

Your Response:

1. Are you living in the will of God? Are you relying on God’s sovereignty and not your own? Be honest with the Lord and yield those areas to Him in prayer.

2. In what events in your life has God taken bad things and worked them for a good end? Thank God in prayer for His sovereign action in your heartaches and disappointments.
3. What areas of your life need to be given over to "*the sovereignty of God?*" Where are you relying on your own power and control and not on God's?
4. Who are the people in your life who have wronged you? In your mind, consider how your grace and forgiveness could demonstrate God's glory. How could you show them grace and forgiveness as Joseph did?

Resources:

Joseph: Living a Life of Integrity by Gene Getz and Tony Beckett
Exposition of Genesis by H. C. Leupold
Knowing and Doing the Will of God by J. I. Packer
The Sovereignty of God by A. W. Pink
Joseph by Charles R. Swindoll