

**God-Ward Responsibilities**

TO GLORIFY HIM	Phil. 1:20
TO WORSHIP HIM	John 4:23-24
TO PRAISE HIM	Acts 2:46-47
TO HONOR HIM	Colossians 1:18
TO BLESS HIM	Luke 24:53
TO THANK HIM	1 Thessalonians 5:18
TO SERVE HIM	Acts 20:19
TO LOVE HIM	1 Peter 1:8
TO OBEY HIM	John 14:15
TO PLEASE HIM	Ephesians 5:10
TO CONFESS HIM	Matthew 10:32
TO REFLECT HIM	2 Corinthians 3:18
TO TRUST HIM	2 Corinthians 5:7
TO FEAR HIM	Hebrews 12:28
TO REPENT	Revelation 3:19
TO FOLLOW HIM	John 8:31-32)
TO FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM	John 15:4-5
TO REJOICE IN HIM	Philippians 4:4
TO REST IN HIM	Matthew 11:28-30
TO LIVE FOR HIM	2 Corinthians 5:15
TO STAND FIRM IN HIM	Philippians 4:1

**Man's Chief Responsibility**

**The Bible also teaches that the chief commitment of our lives is to God Himself.** Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment" ([Matthew 22:37-38](#)).

**Jesus is telling us that every fiber of our being, every facet of our lives must be committed to loving and serving God.** This means that we must hold nothing back from Him because God holds nothing back from us ([John 3:16](#))

**Jesus is warning us in advance.** The reason for such commitment and loyalty is that the trials we may have to endure will be quite demanding; our allegiance to Him at times may be arduous ([John 15:18](#))

**Jesus has made it plain the cost of discipleship:** "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it" ([Luke 9:23-24](#))

**Man-Ward Responsibilities**

TOWARD OTHERS	Matthew 22:29
TOWARD ALL MEN	Galatians 6:10
TOWARD THOSE OUTSIDE CHRIST	Colossians 4:5-6
TOWARD WIDOWS,	James 1:27
TOWARD FELLOW BELIEVERS	Hebrews 10:24-25
TOWARD THOSE WHO PERSECUTE ME	Matthew 5:44
TOWARD THOSE WHO WRONG ME	Romans 12:21
TOWARD THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST ME	Luke 17:3
TOWARD PARENTS	Ephesians 6:1-2
TOWARD CHILDREN	Ephesians 6:4
TOWARD MY EMPLOYER (BOSS)	Colossians 3:22-24
TOWARD HIS (CHRIST'S) LOCAL CHURCH	Hebrews 10:25
TO MY PASTOR AND CHURCH LEADERS	1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
TOWARD FALSE TEACHING AND FALSE TEACHERS	1 John 4:1

**Now is our chance to choose the right side. God is holding back to give us that chance. It won't last forever. We must take it or leave it C.S Lewis**

**Tozer's Illustration**

Another real problem created by the doctrine of the divine sovereignty has to do with the will of man. If God rules His universe by His sovereign decrees, how is it possible for man to exercise free choice? **And if he cannot exercise freedom of choice, how can he be held responsible for his conduct?** Is he not a mere puppet whose actions are determined by a behind-the-scenes God who pulls the strings as it pleases Him?

The attempt to answer these questions has divided the Christian church neatly into two camps which have borne the names of two distinguished theologians, Jacobus Arminius and John Calvin. Most Christians are content to get into one camp or the other and deny either sovereignty to God or free will to man. It appears possible, however, to reconcile these two positions without doing violence to either, although the effort that follows may prove deficient to partisans of one camp or the other.

***Here is my view: God sovereignly decreed that man should be free to exercise moral choice, and man from the beginning has fulfilled that decree by making his choice between good and evil.***

When he chooses to do evil, he does not thereby countervail the sovereign will of God but fulfills it, inasmuch as the eternal decree decided not which choice the man should make but that he should be free to make it. If in His absolute freedom God has willed to give man limited freedom, who is there to stay His hand or say, "What doest thou?" **Man's will is free because God is sovereign.**

*A God less than sovereign could not bestow moral freedom upon His creatures, He would be afraid to do so.*

**Perhaps a homely illustration might help us to understand. An ocean liner leaves New York bound for Liverpool. Its destination has been determined by proper authorities. Nothing can change it. This is at least a faint picture of sovereignty.**

On board the liner are several scores of passengers. These are not in chains, neither are their activities determine for them by decree. They are completely free to move about as they will. They eat, sleep, play, lounge about on the deck, read, talk, altogether as they please; but all the while the great liner is carrying them steadily onward toward a predetermined port.

Both freedom and sovereignty are present here and they do not contradict each other. So it is, I believe, with man's freedom and the sovereignty of God.

*The mighty liner of God's sovereign design keeps its steady course over the sea of history.*

God moves undisturbed and unhindered toward the fulfillment of those eternal purposes which He purposed in Christ Jesus before the world began. We do not know all that is included in those purposes, but enough has been disclosed to furnish us with a broad outline of things to come and to give us good hope and firm assurance of future well-being.

—*The Knowledge of the Holy*, p. 110-111

