

Sermon series: Visions of Hope
Text: Zechariah 1:7-17; 6:1-8
Delivered: October 16th, 2022
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Our God Rules

“Imagery has the power to hook us deep inside. Images can quickly and effectively convey that which we struggle to put into words. Imagery goes beyond the intellect and through the emotions into the imagination, grabbing hold of us at the deepest recesses of our being” – Darrell Johnson

The Picture of God’s Sovereignty: God is ruling over _____ . (1:8-10)

1. God’s sovereign rule is _____.
2. God’s sovereign rule puts what we see into _____. (Isaiah 40:22)

The Mystery of God’s Sovereignty: God’s rule doesn’t always make _____. (1:11-13)

1. There is always a _____ to God’s sovereignty.
2. Scripture provides us with a _____ to walk through the mystery.

The Purposes of God’s Sovereignty: God is ruling for our _____ and His _____. (1:14-17)

1. God is working to _____ for His people.
2. God is working to _____ His glory. (Ezekiel 39:25)
3. God is working to _____ His grace. (Deuteronomy 7:6-8; 1 Corinthians 1:27-29)

The Conclusion of God’s Sovereignty: God _____! (6:1-8)

How should God’s sovereignty affect us?

1. God’s sovereignty should _____ us.
2. God’s sovereignty should _____ us.

Big Idea: God’s sovereign rule is a comfort and motivation to His discouraged people.

What are some things that you have found tend to fog up spiritual vision in your own life? How has scripture helped at times in providing a defroster and enabling you to see clearly?

Can you think of a time in your life where an image or visual had bigger effect on your life than simply hearing something described?

In what ways have you found that God’s sovereignty helps to put things into perspective in your life?



What are the things that have happened (or are currently happening) in your life that have left you saying, "Why God?" Do you feel like you ever get a full answer to that question? If you are with your CARE Group, take a moment to pray for each other in these difficult areas of life.

In what ways has scripture helped you to walk through difficult and mysterious circumstances in your life? Are there particular passages of scripture that have been especially helpful to you?

What are some of the stories in the Bible that leave you saying, "Wow! God you are awesome!"? Are there stories in your own life that have left you saying that as well?

How does knowing the end help you to press through difficulty in the present? Have you seen this specifically show up in ways in your life?

How has God's sovereignty served to comfort you in the face of discouragement and difficulty?

How has God's sovereignty motivated you to obey him and what he's called you to do?

Further Resources:

- [Listen to "Have You Seen the Providence of God?" by John Piper](#)
- [Listen to "Ten Effects of Seeing and Savoring the Providence of God" by John Piper](#)
- These are the Audiobook Introduction and Conclusion to John Piper's book on Providence