



# HOW GOD WORKS IN YOU

## THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

ACTS 22:17-21

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • February 3 & 4, 2024 • Acts, week 112 • Msg. 24-04

1. See \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.17-18)

**Acts 22:17** "When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance **18** and saw him saying to me, 'Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.' **19** And I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you.

2. See \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.19-20)

**20** And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.' **21** And he said to me, 'Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'" (ESV)

3. See \_\_\_\_\_ (v.21)

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others

1. Read **Acts 17:24-27**. How do these series of sovereign decisions, which are completely out of our hands (i.e. where and when one is born), help you imagine and recognize God's direction in other circumstances of life?
2. Read **Jeremiah 1:5-8** and **Isaiah 46:8-11**. What would you say to someone who admits God plans out the big issues in history, but doesn't believe he providentially plans the path for the lives of everyday Christians like us?
3. Read **Psalms 119:14-16**. How would you explain to a new Christian the way God uses the study, reflection, and application of the Bible to direct our path into investments in our lives, which looking back years down the road can clearly be seen as God's specific and strategic will for our lives?
4. Read **1 Peter 4:1-2**. How have you found that episodes or seasons of suffering in your life (which you would have *never* chosen for yourself) end up being God's chosen preparation for helping you to fruitfully walk in the center of God's will?
5. Read **Romans 8:28**. How do you think God intended to impact us by including this verse in his word?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

- Msg. 23-32 – **Seizing God's Opportunities**
- Msg. 18-04 – **Submitting to Christ's Sovereign Authority**
- Msg. 19-30 – **Unfazed by Sovereign Challenges**
- Msg. 21-23 – **Saul: A New Purpose**
- Msg. 22-28 – **Discerning God's Will**
- Msg. 18-25 – **Provision & Planning**
- Msg. 22-08 – **Whatever Comes Next**

## Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup> .....	Ex.34-36 & Mt.23:1-22
Feb. 5 <sup>th</sup> .....	Ex.37-38 & Mt.23:23-39
Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup> .....	Ex.39-40 & Mt.24:1-22
Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup> .....	Lev.1-3 & Mt.24:23-51
Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup> .....	Lev.4-6 & Mt.25:1-30
Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup> .....	Lev.7-9 & Mt.25:31-46
Feb. 10 <sup>th</sup> .....	Lev.10-12 & Mt.26:1-19
Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup> .....	Lev.13 & Mt.26:20-54

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

- Carson, D. A. **Divine Sovereignty & Human Responsibility: Biblical Perspectives in Tension**. Wipf & Stock, 1994.
- Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. **How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth**. Zondervan, 1982.
- Kelly, Douglas. **If God Already Knows Why Pray?** Christian Focus, 1969.
- MacArthur, John. **Found: God's Will: Find the Direction and Purpose God Wants for Your Life**. David Cook, 2012.
- Mayhue, Richard. **The Healing Promise: Is It Always God's Will to Heal?** Mentor Books, 1997.
- Morgan, Christopher. **Suffering and the Goodness of God**. Crossway, 2008.
- Packer, J. I. **Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God**. InterVarsity Press, 1991.
- Packer, J. I. **God's Will: Finding Guidance for Everyday Decisions**. Baker Books, 2012.
- Piper, John, et al. **The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World**. Crossway, 2007.
- Piper, John. **21 Servants of Sovereign Joy: Faithful, Flawed, and Fruitful**. Crossway, 2018.
- Saucy, Robert. **Scripture: Its Power, Authority, and Relevance**. Word Publishing, 2001.
- Schreiner, Thomas & Bruce Ware. **Still Sovereign: Perspectives on Election, Foreknowledge & Grace**. Baker, 2000.
- Sproul, R. C. **Can I know God's Will?** Ligonier, 2019.