



True Christian consistency does not mean stubborn adherence to limited Bible light, but the willingness to revise our ideas and attitudes and practices as fast as we learn more from the hand of God.

# Overcoming The PUPPETEER Concept Of God

Developing A Systematic Theology: Part 12  
The Doctrine of God: Part 11

## A Study On The Decrees of God

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## The Puppeteer Concept of God

1. 

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2. 

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## What Is Determinism?

Determinism is the general philosophical thesis which states that for everything that ever happens there are conditions such that, given them, nothing else could happen.

*Does our behaviour result from forces over which we have no control or do we have free choice to behave as we wish?*

## Origins of Determinism



1. In Eastern Thought 

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2. In Western Thought 

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## Types of Determinism

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### Theological Determinism

The thesis that there is a God who determines all that humans will do, either by knowing their actions in advance, via some form of omniscience or by decreeing their actions in advance.

The problem of free will, in this context, is the problem of how our actions can be free, if there is a being who has determined them for us ahead of time.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. (Colossians 2:8)

### Overcoming The Puppeteer Concept of God

1.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

2.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

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Then Peter opened his mouth, and said,  
Of a truth I perceive that God is no re-  
specter of persons:

But in every nation he that feareth him,  
and worketh righteousness, is accepted  
with him. (Acts 10:34-35)

O God, how long shall the adversary  
reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme  
thy name for ever? (Psalm 74:10)

Remember this, that the enemy hath re-  
proached, O LORD, and that the fool-  
ish people have blasphemed thy name.  
(Psalm 74:18)

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy  
word is truth. (John 17:17)

And it shall come to pass, that whoso-  
ever shall call on the name of the Lord  
shall be saved. (Acts 2:21)

The Lord is... not willing that any should  
perish, but that all should come to re-  
pentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

For this is good and acceptable in the  
sight of God our Saviour;

Who will have all men to be saved, and  
to come unto the knowledge of the truth.  
(1 Timothy 2:3-4)

And he is the propitiation for our sins:  
and not for ours only, but also for the  
sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2)

And he said unto them, Go ye into all  
the world, and preach the gospel to ev-  
ery creature. (Mark 16:15)

For there is one God, and one mediator  
between God and men, the man Christ  
Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for  
all... (1 Timothy 2:5-6)  
...we trust in the living God, who is the  
Saviour of all men, specially of those  
that believe. (1 Timothy 4:10)

For the grace of God that bringeth sal-  
vation hath appeared to all men...  
(Titus 2:11)

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,  
will draw all men unto me. (John 12:32)

3.

### The Five Tenants of Determinism

1.

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3.

4.

5.

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? (2 Corinthians 13:5)

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: (Psalm 8:4-6)

4.

The Three Types of Creation

Creation	Characteristics	Government	Outcome

...choose you this day whom ye will serve; (Joshua 24:15)

Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; (2 Corinthians 5:11)

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. (Revelations 3:20)

5.

