

IS GOD DEFEATED?

ROMANS 3:3 • TV359B

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by

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Our subject today is: “**IS GOD DEFEATED?**” Is God disappointed? Is God frustrated? Paul wrote in **Romans 3, verse 3**, “*For what if some did not believe?*” What if they did not believe God and they did not believe His Word? What if they did not believe His promises and they did not believe His Son?

“*Shall their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect?*” Will that destroy the faithfulness of God to His Word, to His Covenant and to His Son because people don’t receive it and people don’t believe it?

What if some did not believe? “*Shall their unbelief make void the purpose of God?*” Shall unbelief cancel that out? What if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief defeat the will of God, the purpose of God and the Covenant of God? Is God defeated?

I read in the scriptures, and when I read the Word of God, I read that the living God (the God of heaven and earth) is Almighty. Is that what you conclude from the scriptures that you read? God is Almighty and God is Sovereign. As David said, “*Our God is in the heavens; He hath done whatsoever He pleased. Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did He in heaven and earth, in the seas and all deep places.*”

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In **Genesis 18**, God pronounced to Abraham that Sarah would have a son. Sarah, according to the scriptures, laughed inwardly. God Himself asked this question; *“Is anything too hard for the Lord?”*

In **Exodus 33**, Moses asked God to *“show me Your glory.”* In reply to that request, God said, *“All right Moses, I will cause all my glory and my goodness to pass before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious; I will be merciful and show mercy to whom I will show mercy.”* That is His glory, the Sovereignty of His mercy, and the Sovereignty of His grace. That is His glory.

If you will read **Isaiah 45 and 46**, the whole of these chapters tell us the same thing, that God is Almighty. He said in this passage from **Isaiah 46**, *“I am God; there is none else. I am God; there is none beside me. I declare the end from the beginning”*. Do you know what He is saying? The end of all things is already purposed and already declared from the beginning. What is going to happen in the end has been decided from the beginning. *“I will declare it,”* God says. He foreordains it. He said, *“I declare the end from the beginning and from ancient times.”* He is talking about things way back yonder in the eons of eternity. God said, *“I have from ancient times the things that are not yet done; I have declared them and I say that My council shall stand and I will do all my pleasure.”* God said, *“I have spoken it and I will bring it to pass.”*

Does that sound like God can be defeated? Does that sound like God can be disappointed, frustrated and turned away from His purpose or be sidetracked? He said, *“I will do all my pleasure; I have spoken it; I will bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will do it.”* In **Daniel 4**, listen to this; *“All the inhabitants of this earth are reputed as nothing and God doeth according to His will.”*

We hear a lot today about man’s free will, your will and all of these things. The scripture says, *“He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven and the inhabitants of this earth and none can stay His hand.”* None can stay His hand or stop Him. None can say unto Him, *“what are you doing or what doest thou?”* He said, *“Can I not do with my own what I will? Have not the potter power over the clay to make of the same lump a vessel unto honor and a vessel unto dishonor?”*

That is what God said to Jeremiah. He said, *“You come down to the potter’s house and I will teach you something.”* He took Jeremiah down to the potter’s house and said, *“Watch that potter work.”* He said, *“I’m the potter and you are the clay and I will do with my own what I will.”*

In **Ephesians Chapter 1** the scripture says, *“He worketh all things after the council of His own will.”* This is said twice. *“A man can receive nothing except it be given him from above.”* When our Lord stood before Pontius Pilate in anger because Christ didn’t answer him or show him the respect that he deserved to have, Pontius Pilate said, *“Answerest thou me, knowing that I have the power to crucify you or let you go?”* Our Lord replied, *“You could have no power over me at all except it were given you from above.”*

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You see, even the death of Christ was ordained of the Father. He died the appointed Saviour for the appointed people at the appointed hour, at the appointed death. All things that took place at that cross, the things they said and the things that they did were prophesied hundreds of years before Christ died. They carried this out by their wicked hands and minds, hearts and determinate council and foreknowledge of God.

That is what I read in the Bible. God is Almighty. He is Eternal, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent and Sovereign in all things. He is never defeated and cannot be defeated. *“Is anything too hard for God? He declares the end from the beginning.”*

When I hear today’s preachers, I hear a different god preached. I hear a note sounded that presents an impotent god, a god who wills to do certain things and cannot do it. They have a god who wants to do these great and wonderful things and men won’t let him. They just won’t let him. That is what they are saying. They are implying, “God has a wonderful plan for your life and you won’t let him work it out.” They say God wants to do these things and wills to do these things and desires to do things. They go as far as saying, “He sets out to do these things but He is not able.” Men don’t believe; they won’t let him have His way. Isn’t that strange?

I heard a preacher not long ago on television defining election. The word (election) is mentioned in the Bible so many, many times. This is the way that he defined election. He said, “Well, it is this way; God votes for you and the devil votes against you and you cast the deciding vote.”

That makes God a minority. That makes God outnumbered two to one. Is that the God of the Bible, He just has one vote in this thing and Satan has an equal vote? Do poor, depraved, wretched; dead sinners have an equal vote with God Almighty? They say that His purpose rides on whether or not you cast your vote with Him or the devil. They will say that God is standing around and waits on to see what you will do in order to affect His purpose.

That is not the God of the Bible. They say, “Give God a chance.” Does Almighty God works on chances? They also say, “Let go and let God have His way.” Do you mean God waits for you to let Him do something?

What kind of God is this? It is an impotent God. No wonder *“there is no fear of God before their eyes.”* They have never heard about the true God of the Bible preached. I hear preachers say this and I will read this on bulletin boards, “God has no hands but your hands.” Then, how did He make the universe? Have you heard them say, “God has no feet but your feet?”

Then, how does He walk about the universe and about heaven and command the lightening to come and the lightening to go. How does he make the rains to fall and the snows to

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cover the earth? How does God keep all of this in its right perspective? How does He come in mercy and grace to visit sinners, if He has no feet but yours and mine?

I hear men say, “God needs you; God needs your tithes, God needs your talent, and God needs your time.” He does? What did He do before I came along? I ask this, “Why did He say in His Word, *“if I were hungry, I wouldn’t ask you.”* He said, *“The cattle on a thousand hills are His and the gold and silver that hasn’t even been mined is His. The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof.”* God doesn’t need me; it sounds like I need Him.

Other people say this, “Salvation is up to you.” The Bible says, *“Salvation is of the Lord.”* The Bible says, *“The salvation of the righteous is of God and of Him only.”* One of the disciples asked Him one day, *“Who then who can be saved?”* He said, *“With men it is impossible.”* Then, some preacher comes along and tells us that it is up to me. Here, my Lord is saying, *“It is impossible with men but that which is impossible with men is possible with God.”*

Other people say this all of the time, *“It is up to your free will.”* They say you are saved by your free will. That is not what the Bible says. The Bible says, *“It is not of him that willeth nor of him that runneth; it is God that showeth mercy.”*

They will say that is all up to your will. You might say, “I will” or “I won’t,” but that is not what the Bible says. The Bible says, *“We are born of God. We are not born of the will of the flesh, not of the will of man, but we are born of God.”* That is what this Book says. There is a great contradiction here!

The Bible has an Almighty God. Preachers today have an impotent God. The Bible has a God who declares the end from the beginning. The preachers of today have a god that doesn’t know what is going to happen. The Bible presents a God that is able to save. *“Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”* Preachers today, have a god who sits back and waits to see what the creature will do. There is a contradiction here, a horrible contradiction in today’s pulpit and in God’s timeless scriptures.

I’m amazed that the people in the pews don’t rise up and question this lack of agreement between the god that is preached and the God that is presented in the Word of God. I am amazed! I’m presenting my question, that this great discrepancy is totally out of agreement with what is being said and is totally and completely out of agreement with what has been written.

The so-called worship of the Lord today, have you ever listened to it? Do you ever watch it or take part in it, the so-called worship of the Lord? This is the god that they are worshipping and what characterizes it? Is it hand clapping, arm waving, entertainment, drums, boasting, money raising, contests, begging, luxurious cathedrals and temples and churches? There is pride of accomplishment. That is what today’s worship consists of and is characterized by. Is this not true? Just watch them!

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The scripture says, *“God is in His Holy Temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.”* Listen to the Word again, *“The Lord is in the heavens; you are upon the earth, therefore, let your words be few. Be not hasty to utter anything before God. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”* The wise man said, *“Come children; let me teach you respect and reverence and fear of the Lord. Holy and Reverend is His name.”*

I tell you, when Isaiah saw the Lord, the scripture says, He cried, *“O woe is me; I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips.”* Daniel said, *“When I saw the Lord my comeliness melted into corruption.”* Job said, *“O Lord I have heard of you by the hearing of the ear and now my eye seeth thee, wherefore, I hate myself. I put my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, twice, things too wonderful for me. I will never speak again.”* John said, *“I heard His voice. I heard the voice of Almighty God. I heard the voice of the risen, glorified Redeemer and I have turned to see who spoke to me and I fell at His feet as a dead man.”*

He didn't jump up and wave his arms and bounce around. *“He that humbleth himself shall be exalted. He that exalteth himself shall be abased. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit and a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise. The Lord is nigh unto them of a broken heart. He saveth such as be of a humble, contrite spirit.”* The Psalmist said, *“Come; let us bow down.”*

He is not saying to stand up and be counted, but to bow down! Don't dance around the room. *“Come, let us bow down and worship. O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt His name together for the Lord our God is a terrible God.”*

Some say that I am in a minority! You might say that I am a throwback to modern religion and this is not what people believe about God and this is not what preachers today believe about God. I know this. Do you think that I don't know this? I will tell you this; this is what the Bible says about God. The Bible says that God is Almighty and it means just what it says. It says that God is Sovereign, God is Omnipotent and God Almighty *“will work all things after the council of His own will.”* What He decreed to do, He will do. *“He declares from the end from the beginning.”*

Let me show you something. Let's see what the Master, the Lord Jesus Christ has to say about this very thing. Turn to **John Chapter Six**. Here, our Lord is speaking to religious people just as I am this morning. Everybody has got religion. Just about everyone belongs to someone's church. They may have made a decision or joined a church and been baptized. Our Lord was speaking to all these religious Jews and Israelites in **John 6: 36** it says, *“I said unto you; you have seen Me and you believe not. You have seen me as I am, who I am, what I am and you don't believe Me.”*

I will say this about our day, *“We have seen God and we have seen God in the heavens.”* *“The heavens declare the glory of God. The firmament showeth His handiwork. O God*

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when I consider the sun, the moon, the stars, the things which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him?"

You've seen the God of the universe. You've seen God in creation. *"He is known by the things that are made and all things were made by Him in heaven, earth and under the earth. All things are sustained by Him and contained by Him. In Him they live and move and have their being."* That takes a powerful, powerful God.

Every little star is on a chartered course. Every atom in the universe is where it is because God watches over it to keep it from blowing this thing up. You've seen God in His Law. He is Holy. *"Holy and reverend is His name."* Christ said, *"You have seen Me. You have seen God in His Law; He is Holy. "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty."*

You've seen God in the Old Testament pictures and types and shadows. Adam met with God. He sinned and God cast him out. Do you know anything about *Noah, who* "found grace in the eyes of the Lord?" Was that all decreed, purposed and carried out according to His announcement? He said, *"A man's days will be a 120 years. There will be eight souls saved so as by water."*

Are you familiar with Abraham? God called him out of his father's house when he was 75 years old? He said, *"Come out; go to the land that I will show you; I will give you a son."* Did He do it?

Do you know about Moses when he tried to deliver Israel while he was in Egypt? Moses was a 40-year-old man and in the prime of life. He had the entire Egyptian throne behind him; he also had his wealth and his influence behind him. God resisted his efforts and sent him out to the desert for 40 years until he became an 80-year-old man and brought him back into Egypt with a shepherd's cloak and a shepherd's staff. He used him to deliver a nation.

Do you know anything about Israel? God chose them. David had seen God. He is there. You have seen God in the flesh. Jesus Christ came to this earth and you have seen and heard what He had to say. What are the results? Christ said, *"You've seen Me."*

Men are without excuse. God may be known by the things that are made. God may be known by the conscience He gives. God may be known by the very practical understanding that if God is God; He is God. Somebody is in charge. This thing is just not left to run itself. *"Now you've seen Me,"* He said.

Now, what are the results? He said, *"You believe not. I'm come in My Father's name and you received Me not. He was in the world and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own and His own received Him not. You've seen Me and you believe not. You will not come to me that you may have life."* Isaiah says, *"He is despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief and we hid it as were our faces from Him. You*

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have seen Me and you don't believe." Well then, is God defeated? Is that the conclusion that God is disappointed and it is not going to be like He wants it to be?

Oh yes it will, listen to the next verse: "However, Christ said in **John 6:36**; *"You've seen me and you haven't believed, but all that My Father giveth Me shall come to me. All that My Father giveth Me shall come to Me and him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out."* What did He say? *"He speaks as no other man ever spake."* He speaks with authority because *"He has all authority in heaven and earth. He has all power over all flesh and all power is given to Me."* He said, *"All that My Father giveth me."*

Before the world began the Father gave to the Son a people *"out of every tribe, kindred, nation and tongue under heaven."* The stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore are a numberless number. They are an innumerable company. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in the heavenly places according as He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world that we should be holy."*

"I am bound to give thanks for you brethren, beloved of the Lord because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation." *"The lamb slain from the foundation of the world"* was given a people from the foundation of the world. You can't deny that. *"All that My Father giveth Me shall come to Me."* They shall come. He says, *"Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them I must bring and they shall hear My voice and there shall be one Shepherd. My sheep hear My voice; I give them eternal life and they will never perish. Thy people shall be willing in the day of Thy power. Whom He foreknew He predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son. Whom He predestinated He called and whom He called, He justified and whom He justified He glorified."* Not a one of them is lost.

That's the power of God! That's the Sovereignty of our Lord. He is Sovereign in creation, providence and in salvation. That is the God of the Bible. Is that the God that you are hearing preached or are you hearing a whiney, defeated, disappointed, frustrated god who is up there in heaven ringing his hands because folks won't let him have His way?

Then, our Lord continues in **verse 38**: He says, *"You've seen Me; you've heard Me and you haven't believed Me."* Some will. He said, *"All that My Father giveth Me, they will come to Me and he that cometh I will under no circumstances, in no wise cast out for I came down from heaven not to do My will nor your will or any man's will. I came to do the will of Him that sent Me."*

We were talking about that a while ago, the will of God. He said, *"I came to do."* Jesus Christ came into the world to do the will of God. He said, *"I came to do the will of Him that sent Me. God works all things after the council of His own will. Christ came to do Thy will."* In **Hebrews 10**, it says; *"Lo, I come to do Thy will O God, by the which will we are sanctified; by the which will we are saved; by the which will we are redeemed for the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all."* Salvation is by whose will? *"Lo, I*

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come to do Thy will, O God. I came down from heaven not to do my will or your will but the will of Him that sent Me and by the which will we are sanctified."

When He prayed in **John 17**, He said; *"I finished the work You gave Me to do; now glorify Me with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was."* What is the will of God? What is this will that Christ came to do? What is this will by which we are saved? What is this will of God that He finished? Look at **verse 39**, He said; *"You see Me but you don't believe Me. But, all that He gave Me will believe Me because I came down to do His will and this is the will of Him that sent Me, that all of which He hath given Me, (entrusted in my care, over which He made Me the Surety), all of which He gave Me; I should lose nothing, but raise it up again at the last day."* No, not one! Oh my soul, the will of God shall be done.

The Lord taught us to pray. He will save His people. He gave Christ to people. He calls them His sheep, His brethren, His elect, His people and His jewels. Christ died for those people. Christ says, *"I will lose none of them, but on that last day when the trump shall sound and the voice of the archangel cries forth; I'll raise him from the dead. This is the will of Him that sent Me that of all which He hath given Me; I'll lose nothing."*

Is God defeated? It doesn't sound like it, does it? Is God disappointed? It doesn't sound like it. Is He frustrated? Is He powerless? It doesn't sound like it. I hear that when I hear preachers. When I read the Bible, I don't get that message. He said, *"This is the will of Him that sent Me that everyone that seeth the Son and believeth on Him hath everlasting life."* Yes, the Father gave Him a people and their redemption is complete in Christ and they shall hear the gospel and *"they shall be one fold and one shepherd."* They will come. *"My sheep will hear My voice and they will follow Me."*

Watch Him as He closes. When he preached, *"They began to murmur,"* They said, *"This man is a son of Joseph. We know His mother and father. He came down from heaven? How can He be from heaven?"* He replied, *"Murmur not among yourselves, I said unto you; no man can come unto Me, except My Father which sent Me draw him. They shall all be taught of God and he that hath heard of the Father and learned, he comes to Me."*

Is God defeated? No sir!