



GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

YESTERDAY • TODAY • FOREVER

SOVEREIGN – Possessing supreme dominion and power above all. God’s absolute right to do all things according to His own good pleasure. (free of external influence)

FREE WILL – Having both the ability and the desire to make a choice free of external control or determination. Specifically in this context, the question is “does man have BOTH the ability and will to freely choose salvation from God?”

Implicit/Imply = to indicate by inference or consequence rather than by direct statement. Capable of being understood from something else not expressed.

Explicit = fully revealed or expressed without vagueness, implication, or ambiguity leaving no question as to meaning or intent

Implies God Changes?

Gen 6:6 “And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him to His heart.”

Exod 32:14 “And the Lord relented from the disaster that He had spoken of bringing on His people.”

1 Sam 15:11 “I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not performed My commandments.”

Jonah 3:10 “When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it.”

Explicitly States He Doesn't Change

Mal 3:6 “For I the Lord do not change”

Nu 23:19 “God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?”

Isa 46:10 “Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purposes’”

Ps 115:3 “Our God is in the heavens; He does all that He pleases.”

Ps 135:6 “Whatever the Lord pleases, He does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.”

CHART

	Implicit Positive	Explicit Positive		Implicit Negative	Explicit Negative
God's Sovereignty	<p>Verses that imply God is sovereign</p> <p>Gen 18:14 Ex 4:11 Eccl 7:13-14 Jer 32:27 Lam 3:37-38 Amos 3:6 Rom 9:19</p>	<p>Verses that explicitly state God is sovereign</p> <p>Ex 4:11 Deut 32:39 2 Chr 20:6 Ps 103:19 Ps 115:3 Ps 135:6 Isa 45:5-7 Isa 46:10 Dan 4:35 Luke 1:37 Acts 4:27-28 Acts 17:26 Rev 17:17</p>		<p>Verses that imply God is not sovereign</p> <p>Gen 6:6 Ex 32:14 1 Sam 15:11 2 Sam 24:16 Jonah 3:10</p>	<p>Verses that explicitly state God is not sovereign</p> <p>(No verses!)</p>
Man's Free Will	<p>Verses that imply Man has free will</p> <p>Deut 30:19 Josh 24:15 John 3:16 John 5:40 Acts 2:21 Acts 3:19 Acts 16:31 Rev 22:17</p>	<p>Verses that explicitly state Man has free will</p> <p>(No verses!)</p>		<p>Verses that imply Man does not have free will</p> <p>Ex 10:1-2 Ex 12:36 Ex 14:17 Deut 2:30 Deut 29:4 Josh 24:19 2 Chr 25:20 Ps 105:25 Isa 44:28 Isa 63:17</p>	<p>Verses that explicitly state Man does not have free will</p> <p>Prov 21:1 Isa 6:10 Eze 36:26-27 Mark 4:11-12 John 6:44 John 6:65 John 8:43 John 10:26 John 12:39-40 Rom 6:17 Rom 8:7-8 Rom 9:18 Rom 11:8 Rev 17:17</p>

Explicitly: Man Does Not Have A Free Will

Jhn 10:26 “But you do not believe because you are not my sheep.”

Jhn 12:39-40 “Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.”

Ro 8:7-8 “For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

Ro 9:18 “So then He has mercy on whomever He wills, and He hardens whomever He wills.”

Ro 11:8 “As it is written, “God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day.”

Rev 17:17 “For God has put it into their hearts to carry out His purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.”

Deut 2:30 30 “But Sihon the king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him, for the Lord your God hardened his spirit and made his heart obstinate, that He might give him into your hand, as he is this day.”

Deut 29:4 “But to this day the Lord has not given you a heart to understand or eyes to see or ears to hear.”

2 Cor 3:15 “Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts”

2 Thess 2:11-12 “Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

Lk 10:21 “In that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.”

1 Cor 2:14 “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.”

No desire/will and no ability/power to grasp, receive, respond, understand or know anything.....

God who appoints people to believe (**Acts 13:48**), chooses who is to be holy and blameless (**Eph 1:4**), calls us according to His purpose (**2 Tim 1:9**), chooses us for salvation (**2 Thes 2:13-14**), grants the act of believing (**Phil 1:29**), grants repentance (**2 Tim 2:24-26**), causes us to be born again (**1 Pet 1:3**), draws/draws people to Himself (**Jhn 6:44,65**), predestines us to salvation (**Ro 8:29-30**) and adoption (**Eph 1:5**) according to His purpose (**Eph 1:11**), makes us born again not by our will but by His will (**Jhn 1:12-13**), and works faith in the believer (**Jhn 6:28-29**).

John 3:4-8 “Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of **(FOR)** the Spirit.”