

# **4 Bad ways to respond to God's Sovereignty**

**... and how to respond  
better!**

Matthew 28:18-20 - Philippians 2:12-13

# **Proverbs 19:21**

**There are many plans in a man's  
heart, Nevertheless the LORD's  
counsel—that will stand.**

# 1. God's Sovereignty and Evangelism

**Wrong Response:** Because

God is sovereign, evangelism  
is not that important.

**Right Response:** Because  
God is sovereign, I will  
evangelize more.

# 2. The Sovereignty of God and Human Participation

**Wrong Response:** God's will is always done, therefore it really doesn't matter what I do.

**Right Response:** God will do whatever he desires, and he desires me to actively participate.



Him, being delivered by the  
determined purpose and  
foreknowledge of God, you have  
taken by lawless hands, have  
crucified, and put to death. -

**Acts 2:23**

But the Pharisees and lawyers  
rejected the counsel of God against  
themselves, being not baptized of  
him - **Luke 7:30**

# 3. The Sovereignty of God and Sanctification

**Wrong Response:** God is the

only one who can empower me to do good, therefore it's really not my fault I keep sinning and messing up because he has not given me all that I need to succeed.

**Right Response:** God is in me,

giving me the power to do good,  
therefore it's always my fault when I  
keep on sinning and messing up  
because he has given me all that I  
need to succeed.

**John 15:5** - "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

**Romans 8:8-9** - So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

# 4. The Sovereignty of God and Prayer



**Wrong Response:** God is in total control, so it really doesn't matter if I pray or not.

**Right Response:** God is in total control, so I should pray all the time.

“The prayer of a Christian is not an attempt to force God’s hand, but a humble acknowledgement of helpless dependence...what we do every time we pray is to confess our own impotence and God’s sovereignty.”