

Let God Be God

1 Chronicles 29:11 (NASB) "Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O LORD, and You exalt Yourself as head over all."

God's in control of NATURE.

Isaiah 45:12 (NLT) "I am the one who made the earth and created people to live on it. With my hands I stretched out the heavens. All the stars are at my command."

God is in control of HISTORY.

Isaiah 46:10-11 (NLT) " Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. I will call a swift bird of prey from the east—a leader from a distant land to come and do my bidding. I have said what I would do, and I will do it."

God is in control of our LIVES.

Act 17:26 (NASB) "He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation."

Job 14:5 (NLT) "You have decided the length of our lives. You know how many months we will live, and we are not given a minute longer."

How's God's Control Affects Our Lives.

First: Because God is in control my plans have LIMITS.

Proverbs 19:21 (NLT) "You can make many plans, but the LORD's purpose will prevail."

Proverbs 16:1 (NLT) "We can make our own plans, but the LORD gives the right answer."

Wrong Attitude: PRESUMPTION

James 4:13-15 (HCSB) "Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit." You don't even know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are a bit of smoke that appears for a little while, then vanishes." Instead, you should say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."

James 4:16 (HCSB) "But as it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil."

Right Attitude: COOPERATION

Proverbs 16:9 (NLT) "We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps."

Second: Because God is in control my problems have a PURPOSE.

I Peter 1:6-7 (Phillips) "At present, you may be temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials. This is no accident. It happens to prove your faith which is infinitely more valuable than gold."

John 14:12 (NASB) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father."

2 Corinthians. 4:16-18 (HCSB) "Therefore we do not give up; even though our outer person is being destroyed, our inner person is being renewed day by day. For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory. So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen; for what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

NOTES





Third: Because God is in control my prayers have POWER.

John 14:12-14 (NASB) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. "If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it."

Ephesians 3:20 (amp) "Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]--"

1. God is not a genie. He is not the concierge who's job is to make sure my stay here is a pleasant one and all my whims are tended to.

2. Often times our prayers are competing against other prayers. Christians pray in conflict.

3. Sometimes we pray with extremely selfish motive so that we might consume it all on ourselves.

James 4:3 (NLT) "When you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure."

1 John 5:14-15 (NASB) "This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him."

Application:

First, your plans.

Do you include God in your plans?

Which of these words best describe your attitude: presumption or cooperation
(circle one)

Second, Your problems.

Do you look for God's purpose in your problems or do you throw a pity party?
(circle one)

If you lost everything, like Job, how would you respond?

Third, Your Prayers.

Do you take advantage of the privilege of prayer?

Do you approach God like a genie in a bottle, or a provider of every whim, or as Sovereign God? **(Circle one)**

Do you have an attitude of surrender to His sovereignty?

Are you cooperating with God's plans for you or are you fighting Him?

Memory Verse: Isaiah 44:6 (NASB) "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me.'"