

Untangling The Reformation

THEME: OBEDIENT FAITH

Rom 1:5 Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.

A person stands in silhouette on the edge of a dark, rocky cliff. The background is a vast, starry night sky. A prominent, glowing pink and purple nebula is visible in the upper right quadrant. The overall scene conveys a sense of vastness and contemplation.

God's Sovereignty & Man's Free Will

Original sin
God is in control
Children Sovereignty
Elect
Fall away Faith
Obedience Evil Hell
Predestination

How tangled up are you?

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How tangled up are you?

A photograph of a train arriving at a station platform. The train is white with blue and yellow accents. It is on a track with a concrete wall on the left and a brick-paved platform on the right. In the background, there is a large building with a glass facade and a sky with some clouds.

Refresh From Last Week: Predestination

If God is sovereign...?

Predestination is for those who follow

Foreknowledge is not the same thing

Airport trip - We can get on and off
the train, and determine how we treat
other passengers on the train...



God's View vs. Man's

Scripture is clear that God knows the future

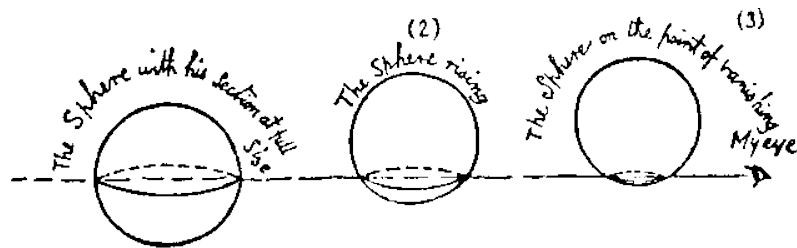
Matthew 6

8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Psalms 139

3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.





God's View vs. Man's

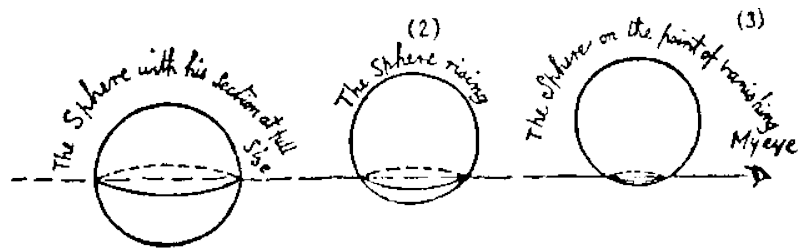
God has total sovereign control over all things

Colossians 1

16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. **17** And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Daniel 4

35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth;
and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"





God's View vs. Man's

We are held responsible for our actions

Romans 3

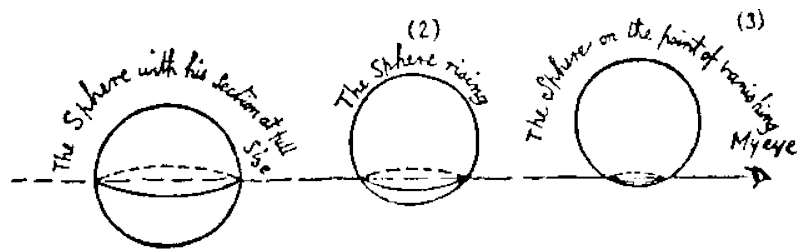
19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

Romans 6

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 9

19 You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?" 20 But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?"





God's View vs. Man's

How these facts work together is impossible for a finite mind to comprehend

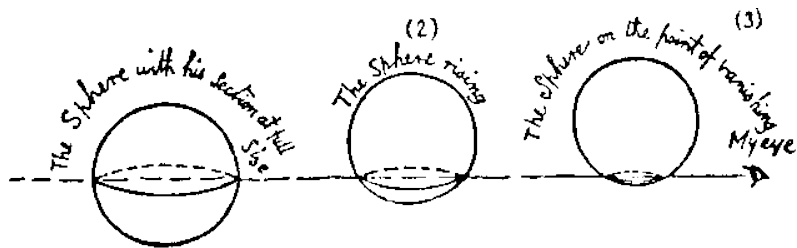
Romans 11

33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

34 “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

35 “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.



A person is seen from behind, standing in a forest and looking at a large, white, cross-shaped monument. The forest is dense with green trees, and a path leads into the distance where other people can be seen walking. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Practical Action – So What Does This Mean To Me?

Sovereignty

The sovereignty of God removes all cause for worry. Not only does God love us, but He has the ability to care for us. God's sovereignty should be a comfort to us, not an issue to be concerned about.

Proverbs 3

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.



Practical Action – So What Does This Mean To Me?

Free Will

We should live our lives making wise decisions in accordance with God's Word.

2 Timothy 3

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work

James 1

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him

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What's next?

Purgatory
Justification & Sanctification

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Time to rescue your children and hurry back for worship!