

Who Can Divert the Purpose and Will of God?

Matthew 1: 1-17

Bible Study

Throughout human history, God has been actively carrying history toward His desired and foreordained purpose and will. It may seem strange to you that the genealogy of Jesus would give evidence to this truth. But as we think about it together we'll see the hand of God at work.

Mankind has always rebelled against God's purpose and will. You have. I have. We rebel against God by nature. Why do we do that? Please don't say, "Because we are rebellious." Or, "because we are sinners." Think deeper than that. Why do mere men rebel against God? Doesn't that seem quite futile?

Read Isaiah 46: 9-11. What do these verses tell us about God's will?

Psalms 115: 1-3 tells us more about God. What do you learn about Him in these verses?

The interesting thing about the genealogy of Christ is that in His lineage there are people just like you and me. People from all walks of life are mentioned. Some are good. Some are real bad. But, none of their badness or their goodness could stop the purpose and will of God from being accomplished in Jesus Christ. He is a descendent of Abraham. He is from the line of David.

God's grace has always been at work in and through the lives of people as He has fulfilled His will and purpose for us.

Read Genesis 38. What a tale! Judah was the father of the tribe from which Christ came. Tamar is mentioned in the genealogy of Christ.

Now let's go to Joshua 2: 1. Rahab is also listed in Christ's lineage.

2 Kings 21 is the record of the worst two kings Judah ever had. Yet they are a part of Christ's earthly family.

So what?

1. No sin is too great for the blood of Christ to cover.
2. No problem is too small to bring to Him
3. No problem is too complex for Jesus to deal with.

God is sovereign. This means He rules over all the kingdoms of the earth. Think about it. From Adam to Joseph God was carrying out His purpose and will. From Abraham to David were 14

generations. These generations were marked with apostasy and unbelief. From David to Jeconiah was 14 more generations. This was to be the era of royalty under God. But, the history of the kings shows how evil most of them were. The next 14 generations were the generations of captivity filled with failure, defeat and misery.

But, God was still at work. He was still on His throne. He still had a plan. All the rebellion, all the ungodliness, all the idolatry, etc. could not stop the will and purpose of God. All the promises He made to His people are still in place. All the blessings of God are still valid.

What are you worried about?

Read Romans 8: 28. What does this verse tell you about the sovereignty of God?

In our generation, we could make lists of things that seem to have gone really bad. Beloved, there is nothing new under the sun. The sin and rebellion we see now is no worse than it was 3000 years ago.

Galatians 4: 4-5 tells us much about how God works. What do you think the “fullness of time” means?

Why was Christ born according to these verses?

God is never early. He’s never late. He is always right on time.

If God can orchestrate human history from Adam to Christ, doesn’t it make sense to place your trust in Him? After all, He is at work redeeming the people of this world to have salvation in His Son. That is His purpose and will. He is going to bring time as we know it and end. You cannot alter the plans of God. You can benefit greatly from knowing Him. Why not completely trust Him?

“For God so loved (you) that He gave His only begotten Son, that if (you) believe in Him, you will not perish but have eternal life.” John 3: 16 paraphrased.