

Two Pillars of the Church that Confuse and Disarm Us: **God Allows** and **chooses if and when He'll Intervene?**

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Introduction

Both of these opinions about God's activity and responsibility in this earth have **negative effects** on our faith. If we believe that God is **allowing** good things to happen to bad people or bad things to happen to good people **as in standing by watching and doing nothing about it**, we are going to frustrate ourselves and **cripple our faith** to trust God. The idea that **God is allowing** all that happens in life itself is really an indictment towards God's integrity because most of what is happening in the earth is not God's will. **This disarms us from resisting evil and standing up to threats** with a whole heart because **we'll never know** if what is about to happen or is happening is from God **as in allowing it to happen for some mysterious good**. In truth it makes us passive and that's where the demonic want us.

God does work all things for our good to those who love Him and are called according to His purpose (Rom. 8:28); however that doesn't mean that God is **allowing or disallowing** anything in our lives; it means that whatever does happen God will work for our good. **The difference is enormous** because in the first position it places all things that happen in God's hands the good, bad, and evil things **as if God is permitting them**. The second position recognizes that God **isn't allowing or disallowing** anything that

happens, in fact God cannot stop what **people** decide and the consequences of those decisions whether good, bad, or evil; but will work all of them for our good which is an awesome promise considering some of the horrendous things that can happen. **We must understand that at one level of human experience the laws of sowing and reaping are automatic** (Gal. 6:7). God is **not allowing or disallowing** but the dominion He gave to man is in **full** authority. If God intervenes without our permission He would be violating His own word (Num. 23:19). This is **not the only level** of human existence as I will expand upon.

I know this is a confusing issue for some because many want to take **comfort in believing that God is orchestrating all the events in their lives**. Many want the comfort of believing that God is not going to **allow anything** into our lives that we cannot handle. After all there are scriptures such as:

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but **God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able**, but with the temptation will **also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it**.

This verse is speaking to **the Christian who is born again** and is no longer under the dominion of the law, the curse of this world, and subject to all the possible happenings in it. **With Christ and salvation that changes everything** and puts us in a position **to accept God's intervention (another level)**; with God as our Father we who were without God and hope now have **great** hope. We moved from the kingdom of darkness living in the world as mere men, to the kingdom of His beloved son. This is huge. The first

level is the kingdom of darkness under the curse the second level is the kingdom of His beloved Son and being born again!

In the kingdom of darkness we were subject to all things before our salvation and vulnerable to the curse, sickness and disease, evil, demonic oppression etc. but now we are sons and daughters of almighty God! Before when we did not belong to God, we were not under His authority nor under His umbrella of protection; however, now that we are **in the gift of righteousness**, our prayers **that are according to His will** are effective and activate God's intervention. In this position we submit to God and resist the devil (James 4:7). In this position we take the name of Jesus and speak to the mountain and rebuke the curse (Mark 11:23, 24 & Gal. 3:13)! In this position we cast away the law and live in newness of life (Rom. 7:6).

The world is fallen and many decisions are being made by people that can and do affect our lives that God is **not allowing or disallowing**. There are weather catastrophes such as earthquakes, tornadoes, storms that rage that God is **not allowing or disallowing** but happen because of the fall when man lost control. If we believe that God is permitting these things **we will not exercise our position of righteousness** in Christ and rebuke them from affecting us or others. What God has done in Christ is brought to us **grace and truth to restore our dominion over sin and its consequences (Rom. 6:14)**.

We are the ones in the driver's seat (Eph. 1: 30 & 1:20) and have the right to accept or not accept the things that come our way. For instance, when doctors or reporters exclaim that it is *flu season* and we all need to get our flu shots, is this God **allowing**

the flu? The flu itself is a product of the curse of the law (Deut. 28) and since in Christ we have been redeemed from the curse of the law **we need to realize our authority to resist this curse**. We must take a stand and deny its authority to come upon us and that God through the **blood of Christ** has already given us the provision over it. We find therefore **great comfort** in God when we realize what Christ did in the cross on our behalf. We find **great comfort** in realizing that God has provided all things that pertain to life and godliness in our salvation experience (II Pet. 1:1-3).

We find **great comfort** in knowing God, knowing peace, and **discerning this matter** to rebuke evil, the curse, and fallen weather patterns. Greater is God in us than he that is in the world (I John 4:4). Our comfort is found in being born again, standing in righteousness, letting the peace of God rule and **taking the authority of the name of Jesus to command God's will be done in our life!** This is a basic truth that cannot be violated: **God cannot save one single soul until that soul prays in Jesus' name.** If we understand this then understand the importance of prayer for us and others and then declaring in His name!

God's Sovereignty Provided Choice in Dominion

As long as we believe that God's Sovereignty means that He controls everything and therefore is responsible for all that happens in life we will remain in position of weakness and confusion (passive). **This takes away dominion and choice as if it has no meaning.** Although we may be exercising faith to believe that God's sovereignty means that everything that comes into our life is under His control we are being misled. We believe God is Sovereign and is almighty and the creator of all that exists;

however, **that doesn't mean that God is controlling all that happens upon the earth.** If heaven is God's throne and His will is done perfectly there then Jesus' prayer to teach us to pray that God's will be done on earth as it is heaven has meaning. It has meaning if the earth is fallen and cursed and His will is not being done here.

God Allowed it!

Someone might argue that sin and the fall could only happen if God allowed it. This is true. God could have set up the situation where no sin and no fall could occur—which means no actual dominion of man exists. When God gave Adam and Eve dominion and choice it could only be real if there were choices other than God's will. In giving opportunity for decisions to be made, other than God's will, does that make God responsible for our choices? What it does allow is freedom to decide but it does not mean God **wants** those choices to be made. What it does mean is that God's **gift of dominion** provides for choices that are against His will which cannot be stopped. If God is sovereign and almighty how is it possible to stop God's will? It is stopped every time God's will is not being chosen—when our choices are not His choices. He would be violating His own word to stop our dominion and God cannot lie. Simply then whose choices are made constantly upon the earth? The answer is obvious that man's choices dominate not God's. If man's choices are responsible for evil does that mean God is allowing it? Certainly not, God's command was for us to exercise our dominion in agreement with His Will. When we choose to take the **gift of dominion** and use it for evil God cannot stop it or He'd be lying about having given us dominion in the first place.

Ge 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

De 30:19 "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* **I have set before you life and death**, blessing and cursing; **therefore choose life**, that both you and your descendants may live;

God set before us life and death, blessing and cursing; but then said "Choose life" that both you and your descendants may live. If we decide to do things our way we are choosing for ourselves death and the curse. God isn't allowing ***it as in standing by watching as if He could stop it at any time but doesn't. Once He gave dominion to man it was out of His hands and into ours.***

If a parent gives an adult son a car (with ownership) and that son decides to use that car in ways the parent would not choose there is nothing the parent can do. If the parent tries to take back ownership of the car the son could take it to court and the law would back him up. Besides the parent would be violating his/her own word to do this. The gift of ownership means "I have dominion." This illustration speaks to the relationship of dominion in a way that most of us can understand. Would the parent be responsible for the son's choices? Would the parent be "allowing" the son to do wrong things with the car? Certainly not; however did the parent allow for it ***as in a potential?*** In other words did the parent's choice to give the gift of ownership to the son provide or allow for evil? The answer is yes and this is where there is truth being expressed in the sentiments "God is allowing..." But we must discern that providing ***for a potential evil***

doesn't mean we are allowing **that evil to continue once dominion is bestowed.**

In providing choice, ownership, dominion, there is the possibility of a wrong choice and using dominion in evil ways; however, **once ownership is given even** though it is providing for choices other than God's own, **the responsibility passes onto the owner.** On the one side God was allowing evil or wrong choices ***as a potential*** if he is giving true dominion and freedom to decide; but once dominion is given God is no longer responsible as in allowing wrong choice and evil to continue to prevail. He didn't want the wrong choices in the first place but it was the consequence of giving dominion that wrong choices were made. Once the dominion was bestowed upon man God was no longer in a position to ***allow or disallow*** wrong choices. One could argue that God allowed the possibility of evil **at the beginning** but one **cannot argue** in truth that God **is allowing or disallowing evil to continue—it is in man's hands.**

The Video Game Analogy

Think of a video game where the programmer has placed in the game all of the options and consequences of every decision. The creator has also placed in life all of the options and consequences of every decision even providing for evil. Evil is using options in a way God would not use them. Evil is perverting the original purpose of something for selfish gains and purposes. A simple example would be the creation of a pencil which has a wonderful use in writing; however, if we use that pencil for stabbing someone's eye out that would be an evil use of something created for good.

God's sovereignty is programmed into life just like a video game has been programmed by its creator. The laws that govern life are everything reproduces after its own kind with sowing and reaping; everything has a consequence or a cause and effect. When we play a video game we enter that game world through a controller. We take on the life of a player and begin to make decisions. The more advanced the game the more options are provided but as we all know every **decision in the game is predetermined**. The program has already planned out every move and what will happen; yet we play the game because our decisions on which move or which path are varied giving us programmed choice. God's sovereignty in life is the same. His judgments are in the earth (Ps. 105:7), the laws that govern are here; our every decision has consequences within the game of life. We still have choices because God has set before us good and evil, blessing and cursing giving us dominion within the predetermined programs of life. There is nothing outside of the programming that can happen in a video game; likewise, there is nothing outside of God's sovereignty and created order than can happen.

As another aside, the demons only true power over anyone is the **law of God** (1 Cor. 15:56) and deceiving each one to make decisions that will bring back upon them the curse. They can possess someone who continues to proceed towards evil, seeking to find spirits, and yielding or giving them permission to control him/her. Once possession takes place it is as if the demon is playing the game of life through an individual (There are biblical examples of minimal powers expressed through possessed people in scripture).

Someone could argue again that God is allowing evil to happen and bad things to come our way **but once the game of life is engaged the programming (law) takes over**. God allowed it in the programming as far as dominion is concerned but He is not responsible for the consequences of our decisions in life. He cannot ***allow nor disallow*** once dominion has been given...speaking from a purely natural perspective (describing the kingdom of darkness) and all things being under the law.

The Game Changer!

God has not left us to our demise of falling under the curse of the law and being oppressed by the demonic in this life. He has helped us (II Cor. 2:6) and sent His only begotten Son to deliver us from our sin and then provide for the Holy Spirit to redeem us and **make us born again** (John 3:16). **The born again experience changes everything**. We who were once under the law now reign in Christ through grace *over* the law. We who were held by the law now have dominion in grace *over* sin. We who suffered the curse now rule and reign through God's Word, through the Holy Spirit, and through faith as we awaken to righteousness!

We now go from being mere men and constantly defeated to victory in Christ Jesus having the same ministry, work, power, and authority in His name! We go from being in bondage to sin nature to being God's Sons and Daughters! We are His ambassadors, His ministers of reconciliation having been given the ***Word of reconciliation***. We are the bride of Christ, we are His workmanship, we are the redeemed and ***we are the beloved!*** We were outcasts bound in trespasses and sins but now we are accepted, forgiven, given ***the gift of righteousness***.

Ro 5:17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

We were once defeated and without hope held in bondage to the law for every sin we sowed we reaped in true justice; however, now we are made righteous through the blood of the Savior who took our sin upon himself and gave us **His righteousness** so that we can now overcome what once held us.

The second pillar of the church which causes confusion is “Why doesn't God intervene?”

The second pillar (or issue) is just as bad but it does logically follow that if God has allowed certain things to happen in our life then the question would be why didn't or doesn't He intervene (Especially if those things that happen are horrendous such as rape, murder, disasters such as storms, tornadoes, earthquakes, etc.)? If we believe that God is allowing the things that happen in life and many of those things are bad then we are naturally going to ask why? Why did He allow them and why didn't He intervene? If He had the right to stop bad things why didn't He?

The answers to these questions however Biblical they may appear is going to be wrong if the questions or issues themselves are wrong. We will not get a right answer to a wrong question. It may appear to answer and it may appear to be right but the truth is we are **out in left field** so to speak wrangling over things that are in a real sense **out of bounds**.

Are these issues legitimate from a Biblical perspective? The answer is debatable of course. There will be arguments and scriptures to support the ideas that God allows and God chooses if and when He'll intervene; however, if we stay true to God's **dominion gift to man** we can at least acknowledge the possibility that God **allowing is out of bounds!** Furthermore, if we understand that God is not in a position to **allow or disallow** having given dominion to man, **then His intervention would also be out of bounds!** This is to speak at a fundamental level of life's existence or game rules with man in charge in the kingdom of darkness.

Why doesn't God intervene?

This question misses the **greatest gift** of all that is Jesus Christ. If we believe that Jesus is the Son of God incarnated into human flesh, then there is no greater intervention possible! The question misses the mark because **it is not recognizing how God has intervened!**

Joh 3:16 "**For God so loved the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

What more could God do to intervene than His only begotten Son? What greater cost or mission could exist than God coming Himself to save us? Has God intervened? Absolutely and to the greatest extent! Someone might argue that God could have intervened in lesser smaller ways and we have some of that in the Old Testament with the patriarchs, the prophets, the law with the blessings and curses, and with Moses the deliverer. But as we can see **none of these** lesser attempts to intervene could possibly save

and make us **born again**. What Jesus has done is redeemed us to the uttermost; it is a complete intervention!

Heb 7:25 Therefore He is also able to **save to the uttermost** those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

The scriptures testify that no man can be justified and made right with God through keeping the law. ***The law is powerless to change hearts and cleanse us from sin*** (Heb. 10:1). The law as holy as it is only has one purpose to expose our sins and condemn us in unrighteousness (Gal. 3:19). The law shows us all that we fall short of God's glory and that we do not have the love of God in us. **It is as if we have all been trying to play the video game of life and no one can beat it.** We all die, we are failing, and we all are subject and vulnerable to the game's curses.

God's intervention is the Messiah who comes as one of us, lives as one of us, and beats the law of life for us. Jesus beat the game by living sinless and then offering Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He offered Himself as the one righteous man to take the sins of the unrighteous to satisfy the law's judgments against us. It is God who is satisfied in the sacrifice of Christ. It is God who is finding peace within Himself concerning our rebellion, actions, and willful misconduct. It is God who is bringing peace between Himself as Holy and just with sinful man. God satisfies Himself in fulfilling the law's requirements against us that every action and decision we made has a consequence. Jesus said this:

Mt 5:17 "Do not think that **I came** to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy **but to fulfill**.

Special Note: Once Jesus beat the law's requirements against us, it was like He beat the "game of life." When anyone beats a video game at every level and the challenge is over there are some games that provide "cheat codes." Cheat codes allow the victorious player to change the game, jump levels, overcome obstacles, and in a sense dominate as if they were a type of god with powers beyond the programmed game to someone who hasn't beat it. Jesus rose from the dead and gave us His name, His peace, His faith, His Spirit, and His commission all of which through God's grace make us dominate and override the world's kingdom of darkness as we believe it. Amen.

He came to fulfill the law's justice against sinners and He did it. He intervened on our behalf...once an obligation is fulfilled it is no longer enforce.

Ro 5:8 But **God demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

His intercession is huge! Not only does He save us from our sins but He makes us one with Him and the Father. **He takes us from under all things to above all things in Christ Jesus.** As we look at the life of Jesus and how He lived, the works that He did, the things He preached, the love He demonstrated, ***we are seeing what He made us!***

Jesus Came to Re-Produce Himself as a seed re-produces itself with thousands!

His mission was that we would do what He did **and have the same attitude towards life as He did!**

Joh 12:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.**

Ro 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the **firstborn among many brethren**.

We have been given the same Spirit with the same authority as if we were Christ walking in the earth again to do the same things He did.

Joh 14:12 “Most assuredly, 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 My Father.

One could have argued that God wanted the world to know that Jesus was/is the Messiah therefore God commissioned him to heal, to deliver, to set free to show Jesus is Lord. Certainly that is true; yet, **Jesus’ mission and then re-commission** of his disciples was to do the very works he did! **The Great Commission** has often in our day been presented to mean salvation in the new birth; what has not been presented is how much that commission included healing, deliverance, and setting the captives free! In other words, the Great Commission is **TWO-FOLDED** having the first part meant to help accomplish the second part. Listen to Jesus’ commissioning of the twelve apostles and then the seventy he sent out two by two: They were to heal the sick and then preach the kingdom of God is near.

Mt. 10:8 “**Heal the sick**, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Luke 9:2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and **to heal the sick**.

Luke 10:9 “And **heal the sick** there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

The laborers were meant to show God’s power to forgive and deliver and then preach the kingdom of God! The same is just as true today as it was then and even more so since Jesus has been glorified and the Holy Spirit sent into the hearts of believers!

Mt 9:37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the **laborers are few**.

38 “**Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**”

We have the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwelling in us to the same things for the same reasons!

Ro 8:11 **But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

In Matthew 28:19, 20 this is considered the **Great Commission!**

19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 “**teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*”

Somehow this verse gets forgotten or left out; however, Jesus commanded the apostles to make disciples **teaching them to observe ALL things that Jesus commanded them!** That includes

preaching the gospel and healing the sick as I have already written...

God's will is to manifest His glory through his sons and daughters in the name of Jesus! The name of Jesus is Lord, deliverer, redeemer, savior, healer, protector, provider, and all wisdom and power! **We are to go in His name to do what Jesus did!** We are commissioned to be His ambassadors and ministers of reconciliation!

2Co 5:20 Now **then, we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

2Co 5:18 Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, **and has given us the ministry of reconciliation**,

Joh 14:13 "And whatever you ask **in My name**, that I will do, **that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**

Joh 15:8 "**By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit**; so you will be My disciples.

Consider these "Just as" statements that Jesus makes towards all believers:

Joh 17:18 "**As You** sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

Joh 17:21 "that they all may be one, **as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

22 "**And the glory which You gave Me I have given them**, that they may be one **just as** We are one:

23 "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, **and have loved them as You have loved Me.**

Joh 20:21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**"

Conclusion:

I could write pages and pages to verify God's intension to make us **just as** and **just like** His Son in this life. **God's intervention** wasn't just to call off the dogs, pick us up and clean off the dirt, to fix our wounds, set us on our feet to go off and do it all over again; no, His intervention was to create for Himself sons and daughters who will rule and reign in life through Jesus' name. **We have an astounding power and authority over life itself now through faith in His grace.** God's grace has restored us to dominion over sin and over the curse of the law and to exercise His will upon the earth. These verses speak to this:

Ro 5:17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)**

1Jo 4:17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, **so are we in this world.**

Our prayers and our declarations in His name through His Word **activate the Spirit to bring about God's will in our life to provide, to protect, to guide, to save, to heal, to restore, to deliver, and to have His presence never leave us nor forsake us.**

As we submit to God's life we resist the devil and he flees from us. As we come under God's authority we exercise His authority. As Jesus spoke to the fig tree and cursed it for not producing figs and it withered and died; as He spoke to the winds and waves "peace be still" and they obeyed Him; as he spoke to cast out demons and they left and as He spoke to sickness and disease and healed all who came to him; **likewise God has given us this same ministry of reconciliation and intervention!**

We are God's body, hands, feet, mouth piece, eyes, ears, and army upon the earth to bring about life and it more abundantly (John 10:10). As strange as this might sound to us just as we cannot do anything without our body in the earth likewise God cannot **allow or disallow** anything in the earth without his body—we are His body!

Why doesn't God intervene? He has in the greatest possible way and then turned that intervention over to His body on the earth. The reason we ask this question is because we have not understood dominion and HOW GOD DID INTERVENE! He says to us "go in my name" and do the things I would do. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out the demons, cleanse the lepers, freely you have received, freely give. Why doesn't God intervene? When we realize exactly how much God has intervened the whole question becomes embarrassing. God has helped us he has intervened beyond our ability to measure.

2Co 6:2 For He says: "In an acceptable time **I have heard you**, And **in the day of salvation I have helped you.**" Behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.

An Important Final Thought!

One final thought concerning the issue “God chooses when and if He’ll intervene.” As was the case with “God allows” ***this presupposes that God has the freedom to act or not act to stop or not stop in the kingdom of darkness, this is not true***. We must understand that God’s ***hands were tied*** according to His promise in giving us dominion. Now that God can act and can stop through His body, the body of Christ, the true believers, ***that intervention is subject to us!*** We continually fall back into the misconception that God is acting sovereign ***without restraints*** in dealing with man upon the earth—***not so***. He has subjected His intervention to the Name of Jesus and through His body the born again believer. It is not that we are waiting on God to intervene at any time; ***it is God waiting on us to act in His name to intervene at any time***. God hasn’t abolished man’s dominion but has provided the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6) to restore ***righteous dominion*** upon the earth in man through Jesus Christ! Amen.

This leads to another misconception that God is waiting to act to intervene ***in some future moment***. God has already acted and decided when He sent Jesus to redeem us. God has already poured out His blessing and His love through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5). God has already authorized us to go in Jesus’ name to make disciples, to deliver, to heal the sick, to cast out demons, to cleanse the lepers...***It is in understanding that grace has already done it and finished the work (the intervention) in the atonement and that we need to act upon what He’s done—that is faith in action.***

Other booklets recommended:

God is Not in Control

He Ever Makes Intercession

Holiness & Righteousness Have Been Made Unto Us

Walking in the Spirit verses the Flesh

Training to be Like Jesus

Jesus' Attitude Towards Sickness & Disease (He reproduced Himself)

What Does the Law Look Like? (So we can cast it away)

Grace & Faith (Understanding what God has already done)