

High School Sunday School – February 28, 2009
Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ
Lesson 3 – Our Motivation, Part 2:
Divine Sovereignty & Human Responsibility

1. Review:

- i. Two weeks ago we diagnosed whether we are MOTIVATED, AVAILABLE, and EQUIPPED for evangelism.
- ii. Last week we discussed the reality of judgment as one motivation for evangelism.

2. This week we will continue to think about our MOTIVATION for evangelism as we discuss the relationship between divine sovereignty and human responsibility.¹ Why is this topic so controversial?

3. The two reasons that all Christians believe that God is sovereign:

- i. They give God thanks for their conversion.
- ii. They pray for the conversion of others.

4. What does the Bible teach about divine sovereignty (God as King)?

- Verses: Is. 45:5-7, Job 38-42, Eph. 1:3-14, Rom. 9:14-18

5. What does the Bible teach about human responsibility (God as Judge)?

- Verses: Ps. 37:27-28, Ezek. 18:19-32, Rom. 2:6-11, 10:5-13, Eph. 4:17-24

6. So how do these fit together?

- Verses: Ex. 9:34 & 10:1, Phil. 2:13 & 14; Jn. 6:44 & Rev. 3:20; Eph. 2:1-9 & 10

¹ This lesson is largely based on J.I. Packer's classic book, *Evangelism & the Sovereignty of God* (Downer's Grove, IL: IVP, 1961).

7. What are the dangers of:

- i. Believing in divine sovereignty without human responsibility?
- ii. Believing in human responsibility without divine sovereignty?

8. The two primary motives of evangelism:

- i. Love of God and concern for his glory.
- ii. Love of people and concern for their welfare.

9. The sovereignty of God does not affect the nature and duty of evangelism.

- i. The belief that God is sovereign in grace does not affect the **necessity of evangelism**.
- ii. The belief that God is sovereign in grace does not affect the **urgency of evangelism**.
- iii. The belief that God is sovereign in grace does not affect the **genuineness of gospel invitations** or the **truth of gospel promises**.
- iv. The belief that God is sovereign in grace does not affect the **responsibility of the sinner** for his or her response to the gospel.

10. The sovereignty of God gives us our only hope of success in evangelism.

- i. Successful evangelism without **God's sovereign grace** is impossible.
- ii. **God's effectual calling** makes successful evangelism possible & certain.
- iii. This confidence and certainty should have effects on our **attitude** when evangelizing.

11. So what?