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OHANA BAPTIST CHURCH

Doctrinal Studies Theology

Do you know God? Jam. 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

- Know who president is.
- Know what the president is like (depending on source).
- Seen, met, shook hands with.
- Acquaintance or friends with.
- Know him like wife or family.

Jam. 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

Introduction: "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." A.W. Tozer Dan. 11:32, Ex. 33:11

* What formulates most people's picture of God? Parents (especially Fathers), TV & popular culture, life experiences, religion, education.

A. Definition of Theology

- 1. Theos = God, Logos = Word or study.
 - a. Broad meaning: The <u>science</u> of God and of the relations between God and the universe. The purpose of science is to discover, not create.
 - b. Restrictive meaning: The <u>doctrine</u> of God, the study which deals with the nature of God, His Person, decrees and attributes.
- 2. Divisions of Theology
- a. <u>Bibli</u>ology the study of the Bible.
 - b. Theology the study of God.
- c. <u>Christ</u>ology the study of Christ.
- d. Pneumatology the study of the Holy Spirit.
- e. **Angel**ology the study of angels.
- f. Anthropology the study of man.
- g. Hamartiology the study of <u>sin.</u>
- h. Soteriology the study of <u>salvation..</u>
- I. <u>Ecclesiology</u> the study of the church.

- j. <u>Escha</u>tology the study of last days or end times
- B. Knowing God
 - 1. Unknown by <u>ability.</u> Is. 55:8-9, I Co. 2:11-12
 - 2. Unknown by ignorance. Acts 17:22-27
 - 3. Unknown by choice. Rom. 1:18-23
- I. The Existence of God Heb. 11:6
 - A. Theories of God
 - 1. <u>Atheism</u> Psa. 14:1 "There is no God."
 - 2. Skepticism Serious <u>doubts</u> or <u>disbelief</u> about God.
 - 3. Agnosticism Denies that God can be known.
 - 4. Pantheism <u>Everything</u> is God and God is <u>everything</u>. "The Force" & "Nature"
 - 5. Polytheism There are many gods. Is pantheism popular today?
 - 6. Dualism There are two <u>equal</u> gods -- <u>good</u> and <u>evil.</u>
 - 7. Deism God created the world and left it.
 - 8. Monotheism There is only one God.
 - B. Proofs for the existence of God
 - 1. Natural Proofs Rom. 1:18-20
 - a. Conscience Rom. 1:18-19
 - 1) Mans <u>moral</u> nature Rom. 2:14-15
 - 2) Mans <u>religious</u> nature. Acts 17:22-27
 - b. <u>Creation</u> Rom. 1:20, Psa. 19:1-6
 - 1) Cause and effect
 - 2) Design & designer
 - 2. Supernatural Proofs
 - a. <u>Living</u> Word. Jn 1:1-4, 14, 18
 - b. Written Word. Rom. 10:17
 - * The Scriptures do not attempt to prove God, but begin with a statement of His existence. Gn. 1:1
 - * We could not know God except that He chose to reveal Himself unto us. I Co. 2:9-10, Rm. 1:19

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- II. Description of God
 - A. God is a <u>person</u>. Acts 17:27-28
 - B. God is a Spirit. Jn. 4:24 Trancends matter, time, & space.
 - C. God is <u>One.</u> Deut. 6:4, Ex. 20:2,3
 - D. God is Triune. One God in three persons. Matt. 28:19, II Cor. 13:14
 - 1. God the Father. I Cor. 8:6
 - 2. God the Son. Isa. 9:6, Jn. 1:1,14
 - 3. God the Holy Spirit. Acts 5:3-4
- III. Names of God. Ps. 113:2-3, Prov. 18:10
 - * Why is it important for us to know God's name? Ex. 20:7, Is 43:7, Mt. 6:9 (Psa. 7:17; 8:1, 9; 9:2)

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- 1. His name <u>identifies</u> who He is. Ex. 3:13-15 (Gen. 32:29) Phone call "Do you know who this is?" "General so & so." "Know who this is?" Click
- 2. His name <u>reveals</u> what He does. Is. 59:20 Pastor, Doctor, Sgt., etc.
- 3. His name brings **glory** to Him. Ps. 29:2, 34:1-4 Woody, President
- 4. His name establishes our <u>relationship</u> with Him. Rom. 8:15-16 Honey, dad, sir, etc.
- 5. His name calls for **praise**. Ps. 7:17, 8:1,9, 9:2
- 6. His name provides salvation and strength. Ps. 33:21, 124:8, Pr. 18:10
- A. Elohim "strong or mighty one". Gn. 1:1-2 Plural of El or Eloah Gn. 1:26, Dt. 6:4-5
 - 1. El Elyon "the most <u>high</u> God" Gen. 14:22 (Lk. 1:32,35)
 - 2. El Olam "the <u>everlasting</u> God" Gen. 21:33, ls. 40:28
 - 3. El Shaddai "the <u>almighty</u> God" Gen. 17:1, 28:3
 - 4. El Roi "the God who <u>sees</u>" Gen. 16:13 (I Sam. 16:7, Rm. 2:16)
- B. Yahweh "Jehovah" Ex. 3:13-15 "The I Am, The self-exisistent one"
- * Usually rendered LORD (all caps) in the English.
 - 1. Yahweh Elyon "the Lord most <u>high</u>" Ps. 7:17, 47:2, 97:9
 - 2. Yahweh Nissi "the Lord is my banner". Ex. 17:15, Ps. 20:5, SoS 2:4

- 3. Yahweh Shalom "the Lord is my <u>peace</u>" Judges 6:24 (Jn. 14:27, Phil. 4:7)
- 4. Yahweh Sabaoth "the Lord of <u>hosts</u>". Ps. 89:6,8 (Col. 1:16-17)
- 5. Yahweh Rohi "the Lord is my shepherd". Psa. 23:1 (Heb. 13:20)
- 6. Yahweh Tsidkenu "the Lord is our righteousness". Jer. 23:6 (Is. 64:6, II Co. 5:21)
- 7. Yahweh Shammah "the Lord is there" Ezek. 48:35, Matt. 1:23
- 8. Yahweh M'Kaddesh "the Lord that satisfies". Ex. 31:13
- 9. Yahweh Jireh "the Lord who <u>provides</u>". Gen. 22:8,14 (Rm. 8:32, Phil. 4:19)
- 10. Yahweh Raphe "the Lord that <u>heals</u>". Ex. 15:2 (Jam. 5:13-15)
- C. Adonai "Master or ruler" Josh. 7:6-7; Psa. 8:1
- D. New Testament names for God
 - 1. Theos = O.T. <u>Elohim</u>. 1 Tim. 2:5
 - 2. Kurios "ruler or master" = O.T. Yahweh Jam. 1:7, cp. Vs. 5
 - 3. Pater "Father" Rm. 8:15-16 (Abba = "daddy" in Aramaic)
 - 4.. Despotes "Lord" = O.T. Adonai Acts 4:24
- IV. The Attributes of God Job 26:14, Col. 1:10 List some attributes that people may have Honest, Caring, Consistent, Helpful, Handy, Persistent
 - * Understand not comprehend Dt. 29:29
 - A. Attributes of His nature. Rom. 11:33-36
 - 1. Infinite without limits or bounds. I Kgs. 8:27, Ex. 15:11
 - a. We are <u>finite</u> (limited). Acts 17:28
 - b. If God could be known, He would not be God. Isa. 55:8-9, Psa. 50:21
 - 2. <u>Self-existent</u> Existing independently of others. Ex. 3:14, Jn 5:26; 8:58
 - 3. <u>Eternal</u> I Tim. 1:17, Rom. 1:20, Psa. 90:1-4, Gen. 1:1
 - 4. <u>Immutable</u> unchangeable; God is changeless in His person, attributes and purposes. Mal. 3:6, Psa. 102:26-27, Jas. 1:17
 - a. Gives me <u>confidence.</u> Num. 23:19, Isa. 54:10
 - b. I can trust His Word. Isa. 40:8, Heb. 6:18
 - 5. <u>Unity</u> The divine nature is undivided and indivisible, and there is but one perfect and infinite Spirit. Deut. 6:4, Mk. 12:29-30, I Cor. 8:4, I Tim. 1:17, Eph. 4:6

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My nature is divided – work, home, self. Dad, husband, friend, Pastor. Angry, happy, etc.

- 6. Sovreign He is the supreme ruler over all. I Chr. 29:11, Eph. 1:11, Ps. 135:6
 - a. He can do as He **pleases**. Psa. 115:3
 - b. No one can stop or question Him. Dan. 4:35
- * All things are for the purpose of fulfilling God's **plan** or **decree**.

Rom. 11:36, Prov. 16:33, Eph. 1:1

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- B. Attributes of His greatness
 - 1. <u>Omnipotent</u> all powerful. Rev. 19:6, Jer. 32:17, 27, Rm. 1:20
 - a. God has given me <u>access</u> to His power. Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8
 - b. I must use it through Jesus Christ. Phil. 4:13; Phil. 2:12-13
 - 2. <u>Omniscient</u> all knowing. I Jn. 3:20, Isa. 46:10, Psa. 147:5
 - a. I can know the things of God through His Word and Spirit. I Co. 2:10-12
 - b. I can trust God with my tomorrow. Rom. 8:38, Job 23:10
 - c. I should live knowing that God <u>knows</u> all about me. Jn 1:47-49, Heb.
 - 4:13, Psa. 139:2-4, 23-24; Ezk. 11:5, Prov. 5:21
 - d. I cannot <u>hide</u> anything from God. Psa. 44:21, Jer. 23:24, Heb. 4:13
 - 3. Omnipresent present every where at the same time. Jer. 23:24, Ps. 139:7-10
 - a. I cannot <u>escape</u> the presence of God. Psa 139:7
 - b. God is always with me. Joshua 1:9
 - c. God <u>sees</u> me at all times. Gen. 16:13, Prov. 15:3
 - 4. <u>Omnisapient</u> all wisdom Rom. 11:33, I Tim. 1:17
 - a. I can <u>trust</u> an all wise God completely. Heb. 11:1,6
 - b. I can <u>ask</u> God for wisdom Prov. 2:6-7, Jas. 1:5, 3:13-18
- C. Attributes of Goodness Psa 31:19, 52:1 (Psa 106:1, 107:1 & 8)
 - 1. <u>Holiness</u> set apart, separate, pure, morally excellent. Ex. 15:11, Is. 6:3, Rev. 4:8
 - a. I should be <u>Holy</u> as He is <u>Holy.</u> I Pet. 1:15-16, I Jn. 3:3
 - b. It is never <u>right</u> to do <u>wrong</u> to do <u>right.</u>

- 2. <u>Love</u> based on the character of God and not the person being loved. John 3:16, I Jn 3:16, 4:8, 16
 - a. I do not need to <u>fear</u> because He will always love me. IJn 4:18
 - b. I will love God and others because He loved me. I Jn 4:19-21, Mt. 22:36-40
- 3. <u>Just</u> equitable, fair, righteous. Deut. 10:17, 32:4, Psa 19:9
 - a. I can expect to <u>reap</u> what I sow. I Pet. 1:17, Gal. 6:7-9 (Matt. 5:45)
 - b. God is fair in His <u>judgments</u>. Psa. 19:9, Heb. 12:9-11 (pg. 6 begins)
- 4. Mercy (Psa 86:5) and Grace (Eph. 2:8-0, Rom. 1:6) Psa 103:8; 145:7-8
 - a. Mercy not giving us what we deserve. Psa 103:17, Psa 136:1-3, Titus 3:5
 - 1) <u>Temporary</u> II Pet. 3:8-9, 15
 - 2) Permanent Psa 86:5
 - b. Grace giving us what we don't deserve. Rom. 5:8
 - * Grace comes from the Greek word for aift.
 - 1) Grace is not of <u>works</u>. Eph. 2:8-9, Rom. 11:6
 - 2) Grace is according to God's **sovereignty**. Ex. 33:19
 - 3) God's grace is always sufficient. II Cor. 12:9
- 5. <u>True</u> Psa. 138:2, Jn 17:3, Rom. 3:4, Tit. 1:2, (I Jn 1:10, 5:10, Col. 3:9)
- 6. Faithful I Cor. 1:9, Deut. 7:9 (Matt. 25:21, I Cor. 4:2)
- "Most Christians have a very limited view of God. We see Him in only one dimension, viewing only attribute at a time. Rather we need to see Him as He is; one God with many attributes so intertwined that He cannot be one without being the others at the same time. God cannot stop being Holy in order to manifest His love nor can he not be Sovereign when He shows His grace and mercy."
- V. The Fatherhood of God
 - A. Fatherhood by <u>creation</u>. Acts 17:29
 - B. Fatherhood by <u>salvation</u>. Gal. 3:26, Jn 1:12
 - 1. Relationship of love (Abba) Rom. 8:15-16, Gal. 4:6
 - 2. Relationship of <u>respect</u> Rom. 8:15, I Pet. 1:17
 - C. Fatherhood by <u>actions</u>.

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- 1. <u>Loves</u> us. IJn 3:1
- 2. Gives us all good gifts. Jas. 1:17, Matt. 7:11
- 3. **Punishes** us. Heb. 12:5-11

VI. The <u>decree</u> of God

- A. Definition of the decree
 - 1. "The decree of God is His eternal purpose or purposes, based on His most wise and holy counsel, whereby He freely and unchangeably, for His own glory, ordained either directively or permissively, all that comes to pass."

 (Thiessen) Pg. 7 starts
 - 2. Analysis of the definition
 - a. The decree is God's eternal <u>purpose</u> or <u>plan</u>. Isa. 14:24, 26-27
 - b. The decree is <u>unchanging</u>. Heb. 6:17
 - c. The decree has as its end the glory of God not: Ps. 19:1, Is. 48:11, Rev. 4:11
 - 1) The <u>happiness</u> of man. II Pt. 3:9
 - 2) The <u>salvation</u> of souls. Eph. 2:8-10, (1:6, 12, 14)
 - 3) The <u>perfecting</u> of the saints. Eph. 4:11-16
 - d. The decree involves God's: (Rom. 11:36)
 - 1) Directive will
 - 2) Permissive will
 - e. **Nothing** happens contrary to or outside of God's decree. Pr. 16:33, Eph. 1:11
- B. Biblical basis for the decree
 - 1. Names of the decree
 - a. <u>Decree</u> Psa. 2:7,8 Prov. 8:29
 - b. Counsel Acts 2:23
 - c. Foreordained | Pet. 1:20
 - d. <u>Will</u> Rom. 9:19, Eph. 1:11
 - e. <u>Purpose</u> Rom. 8:28, Eph. 1:9, Isa. 46:9-11

- 2. The Bible speaks of God's <u>eternal</u> decisions. Eph. 1:4; 3:11, I Tim. 1:9,
- C. The extent of the decree

Tit. 1:2, Rev. 13:8

- 1. The <u>material</u> and physical realm Psa. 148:1-6
- 2. The moral and <u>spiritual</u> realm. Gen. 50:20, Psa. 76:10
- 3. The social and political realm. Acts 17:26-27, Rom. 13:1-2
- 4. The death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Acts 2:23, 4:27-28
- 5. The final triumph of God. Psa. 2:6-9, I Co. 15:27-28
- VII. The <u>sovreignty</u> of God. Eph. 1:4-6

"Try to explain election and you may lose your mind, try to explain it away and you may lose your salvation."

- A. God has chosen us: Jn. 15:16
 - 1. For <u>salvation.</u> II Th. 2:13
 - a. We didn't seek Him (Rm. 3:10-11) He sought us. Lk.19:10
 - b. God sent His Son for the whole whosoever. Jn. 3:16, I Jn. 2:2, Rm. 5:8
 - c. Salvation is by faith for <u>whosever</u> will" Jn. 3:15-16, 4:14, Acts 2:21, Rm. 10:13
 - d. We must <u>choose</u> to come to Him believing. II Th. 2:13, Jn. 6:37 "The door to Heaven says "Whosoever will" on the outside and "The Elect" on the inside"
 - 2. For <u>service</u>. Jn. 15:16, Rm. 9:11 (Acts 2:23, I Pt. 1:20)
- B. God cannot separate His sovereign <u>power</u> (Ps. 22:28, 115:3, Dan. 4:35, I Tim. 1:17, 6:15) or His <u>foreknowledge</u> (Rm. 8:29-30, 11:2, I Pt. 1:2, 20) from His grace. Eph. 1:11.
 - 1. The emphasis of predestination is on being <u>conformed</u> to the image of His Son. Rm. 8:29, Eph. 2:7-10
 - 2. God's choice does not limit who <u>could</u> be saved (Jn. 3:15-16, Acts 10:43, Rm. 10:13, Rev. 22:17), but who <u>would</u> be saved in Him. 1 Jn. 2:2
 - 3. The proof of election is in the <u>changed</u> lives of believers. I Th. 1:3-4, Col. 3:12, II Pt. 1:10



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"To argue that God is "trying His best" to save all mankind, but that the majority of men will not let Him save them, is to imply that the will of the Creator is impotent, and that the will of the creature is omnipotent. To throw the blame, as so many do, upon the Devil, does not remove the difficulty, for if Satan is defeating the purpose of God, then Satan is almighty and God is no longer the Supreme Being." A.W. Pink Pg. 9 starts

CALVINISM TULIP	ARMINIANISM
TOTAL DEPRAVITY	FREE WILL
Sin controls every part of man. He is spiritually	Sin does not control man's will. He is sick and
dead and blind, and unable to obey, believe or	near-sighted, but still able to obey, believe, and
repent. He continually sins, for his nature is	repent. He does not continually sin, for his nature
completely evil.	is not completely evil.
UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION	CONDITIONAL ELECTION
God chose the elect solely on the basis of His free	God chose the elect on the basis of their foreseen
grace, not anything in them. He has a special love	faith. He loves all men equally. God passed over
for the elect. God left the rest to be damned for	no on, but gives to everyone an equal chance to
their sins.	be saved.
LIMITED ATONEMENT	UNIVERSAL ATONMENT
Christ died especially for the elect, and paid a	Christ died equally for all men, and paid a
definite price for them that guarantees their	provisional price that made salvation possible for
salvation.	all but guaranteed it for none.
IRRESISTIBLE GRACE	RESISTABLE GRACE
Saving Grace is irresistible, for the Holy Spirit is	Saving grace is resistible, for God cannot interfere
invincible and intervenes in man's heart. He	with man's free will. Man is born again after he
sovreignly gives the new birth, faith, and	believes, for faith and repentance are not gifts
repentance to the elect.	from God.
PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS	FALLING FROM GRACE
God preserves all the elect and causes them to	Only a few Christians continue in faith and
persevere in faith and obediene to the end. None	obedience to the end. Arminians are divided over
are continually backslidden or finally lost.	whether one can actually lose his salvation.)

VIII. The **Providence** of God.

- A. Definition "That continuous work of God whereby He makes all events of the universe to fulfill the original design with which He created it."
- B. There is nothing outside of the providential control of God. Eph 1:11, Ps. 103:19
 - 1. The <u>physical</u> world. Psa. 135:6-7, Job 37:5-10
 - 2. The animals Matt. 6:26, 10:29
 - 3. The affairs of nations. Job 12:23, Psa. 22:28
 - 4. The lives of men. Psa. 139:13-16, Jer. 1:5, Gal 1:15-16, (Ps. 75:6-7, Lk. 1:52)
 - 5. "Luck", "chance", "Accidents" = providence Pr. 16:33, Mt. 10:30
 - 6. The <u>protection</u> of the righteous Ps. 4:8, 5:12, 121:3, Rom. 8:28
 - 7. The supply of our <u>needs</u> Gn. 22:8, 14, Dt. 8:3, Phil. 4:19
 - 8. Answers to <u>prayers</u> Is. 64:4, Mt. 6:8, 33
 - 9. The <u>punishment</u> of the wicked Ps. 7:12, 13, 11:6, Rom. 12:19
- C. God's providence is manifested in four ways
 - 1. Preventive will God <u>prevents</u> what would otherwise have happened. Gen. 20:6, Ps 19:13, 2 Thess. 2:6
 - 2. Permissive will God withholds <u>impediments</u> and permits man to have his way. Act 14:16, Rm. 1:24-28, Ps.106:15
 - 3. Directive will God directs the <u>acts</u> of men or nature to bring about unforeseen results. Gn. 50:20, (45:5-8), Ps. 76:10
 - 4. Determinate will God determines the <u>bounds</u> and the <u>effects</u> of men or nature. Job 1:12, Ps. 124:2-3, 1 Cor. 10:;13
- D. We should meditate on the providence of God in <u>history</u> and in our <u>lives.</u>
 Ps. 77:11-12, 143:5
 - 1. God uses <u>Scripture</u> to remind us of His providence. Ps. 70 (title)
 - 2. What else does God use to remind us of His providence? Music, altars, places, people, names, objects, etc.

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- I. **G**o to the <u>Lord</u> Mt. 6:33
 - A. Seek Him through prayer. Is. 55:6
 - 1. **Ask** Jam. 4:2
 - 2. Ask for His will. I Jn. 5:14
 - a. Delight in it Ps. 40:8
 - b. Prove God's will Eph. 5:10
 - 3. Ask for His wisdom Jam. 1:5-6
 - a. <u>Teach</u> it to me Ps. 25:4-5 143:10
 - b. Teach <u>others</u> II Tim. 2:2, Ps. 51:13
 - 4. Ask <u>again</u> Heb. 11:6, Lk. 18:1-8
 - 5. Ask others Col. 1:9
 - B. Seek Him through His <u>Word</u> Ezra 7:10
 - 1. Study the Word II Tim. 2:15
 - 2. Study to <u>do</u> 1 Th. 4:11-12 (3), Jn. 7:17
 - a. Listen & learn Phil. 4:9
 - b. Not just <u>hearers</u> Jam. 1:21-25
 - 3. Study **books** Eccl. 12:9-13
 - C. Seek Him through His **Spirit** I Co. 2:10-11
 - 1. **Salvation** Mt. 7:21-23
 - a. Have to have the Spirit Rm. 8:9,14,16
 - b. Bring to <u>remembrance</u> Jn. 14:23-26, 16:7-15
 - 2. <u>Dedication</u> Eph. 5:17-18
 - a. Walk with Him Rm. 8:4-5, Gal. 5:16-18,25
 - b. Talk with Him Rm. 8:26-28
 - c. Go the right <u>way</u> Gn. 24:27, Ps. 1:6, Is. 48:17
 - d. One <u>step</u> at a time Ps. 37:4-5, 23-24
 - 3. Sanctification Eph. 4:30, ITh. 5:19
 - D. Seek Him <u>fully</u> Jer. 29:11-13, Lk. 10:27

- 1. All your <u>heart</u> Pr. 3:5-6, Ps. 119:2, 10, 145
 - 2. All your <u>soul</u> Ps. 63:1
 - 3. All your <u>mind</u> Rm. 12:1-2
 - 4. All your strength Eccl. 12:13-14
- II. Understand God's <u>principles</u> Jam. 4:12-17
 - A. God's <u>purpose</u> Rm. 8:28, 11:36, Rev. 4:11
 - B. God's <u>plan</u> Is. 14:24, 26-27
 - C. God's **position** Rm. 8:31,34
 - D. God's providence Pr. 16:33, Eph. 1:11
 - 1. <u>Preventive</u> will God prevents what would otherwise have happened Gn. 20:6, II Th. 2:6
 - 2. <u>Permissive</u> will God withholds impediments and permits man to have his way Acts 14:16, Rm. 1:24-28, Ps. 106:15
 - a. Presumptuous sin Ps. 19:13
 - b. <u>Prayerful</u> sin I Sam. 8:19-22, 12:19, 23
 - 3. <u>Directive</u> will God directs the acts of men or nature to bring about unforeseen results. Gn. 5:20 (45:5-8)
 - 4. <u>Determinate</u> will God determines the bounds and the effects of man or nature Job. 1:12, Ps. 124:2-3, I Co. 10:13
- III. Investigate your options
 - A. Magnify the Lord Lk. 1:46, Ps. 34:3
 - 1. How <u>big</u> is your God? Lk. 1:37, 18:27
 - 2. Will God <u>increase</u> and I <u>decrease</u>? Jn. 3:30-31
 - B. Put a <u>microscope</u> on yourself Ps. 139:23-24
 - 1. What are my <u>motives</u>? Jam. 4:3, 1:19-21
 - 2. Am I committed? Jam. 1:6-8
 - 3. Is it of <u>faith</u>? Rm. 14:22-23, I Jn. 3:19-22
 - C. Check all of the <u>doors</u> and the <u>locks</u>
 - 1. <u>Open</u> Col. 4:3, Rev. 3:8
 - 2. Closed Acts 16:6-10

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- * Satan hinders us 1 Th. 2:18
- IV. Discuss it with <u>others</u> Pr. 15:22, 19:20 (Pr. 20:5)
 - A. Authorities Heb. 13:7, 17
 - B. Spiritual counsel Pr. 12:15, Ps. 1:1
 - C. Knowledgeable people Pr. 1:5, 20:!8
 - D. <u>Multitude</u> of counsel Pr. 11:14, 15:22, 24:6
 - E. <u>End</u> result | Sam. 15:24, | Kgs. 12:5-6, 8
- V. Exercise your <u>freedom</u> in Christ 1 Co. 10:23
 - A. Evaluate your **experiences** by God's Word Is. 8:20
 - B. Evaluate present <u>decisions</u> by past experiences I Sam. 23:16 cp. I Sam. 30:6
 - C. Evaluate the <u>results</u>
 - 1. Is it expedient? I Co. 6:12
 - 2. Does it **edify**? Rm. 14:19