

The Good News of God's Rule over Sin

by John Piper

This sermon emphasizes the profound connection between the life of Joseph and the life of Jesus, highlighting the importance of recognizing God's sovereignty over the sinful actions of men. It challenges the notion of rejecting God's control over human actions, as it ultimately leads to rejecting the saving work of God in Jesus, as seen in the crucifixion. The message stresses that the gospel of salvation was accomplished through the evil acts of sinful men, showcasing the intentional plan of God for our redemption.

Scripture: Acts 4:27, Isaiah 53:10, Romans 8:28, John 3:16

Topics: "God's Sovereignty", "Redemption through Suffering"

Description

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Transcript

So let me end with the experience of Jesus, which is vastly more important than mine. I think the life of Joseph is the life of Jesus or the life of Jesus is the life of Joseph in a very profound sense. Let me tell you why this is important for me to say right now as we close.

UBSF leaders are going to discover that there are thousands of people around the world who do not want to hear what I have just said. They don't like it. They don't want to believe that God governs the actions of sinful men, like the brothers, jealousy and hatred.

God governs the actions of sinful men. They're not going to want to hear this, that the Bible teaches that the sinful selling of Joseph into slavery was the sending by God of Joseph into saving work. So what you're going to need to show them to help them, because not everybody submits to the Bible, you're going to have to help them see that if they follow the logic of rejecting the sovereignty of God over the sinful actions of humans, they are going to reject the saving work of God in Jesus.

That's what you have to show them. That's pretty serious. They're not going to want to go there, probably.

That's true, you know. If God does not, cannot govern the sinful actions of people in crucifying his son, there is no gospel. Let me read you the key text.

This is Acts chapter 4, verses 27 to 28. The saints are praying. Truly in this city, Jerusalem, they were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, Herod, Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

Herod's mockery, the purple robe, Pilate's cowing to the crowds, Gentile soldiers pushing a crown of thorns down on Jesus' head and smacking him and mocking him, the crowds crying, crucifying, crucifying, all of it doing what God had planned and predestined for your salvation. The gospel of our salvation was accomplished through the evil of sinful men as they killed the Son of God. Random evil saves nobody.

Are you with me? Sinful men killed Jesus and they killed Jesus. Random evil saves nobody. This was not random.

700 years before Isaiah, 700 years before Jesus, Isaiah said, it was the will of the Lord to crush him. He has put him to grief. Isaiah 53 verse 10.

This is not random evil. This is planned.

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