

Creation, Providence, and Miracles

D. Divine Decrees

- The eternal plans of God whereby, logically before the creation of the world he determined to bring about everything that happens. (Ephesians 1:11)
- Revealed/Moral Will and Providential/Sovereign Will (Deuteronomy 29:29)

III. MIRACLES

A. "A miracle is a less common kind of God's activity in which he arouses people's awe and wonder and bears witness to Himself." (Grudem and John Frame)

B. Scriptural Understanding of Miracles: Signs, Wonders, and Mighty Works

- **Sign-** (Exodus 7:3; Deuteronomy 6:22; Ps. 135:9; Acts 4:30; 5:12; Romans 15:19; Acts 2:22; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:4)
- **Wonders -** (Ex. 15; Exodus 7:12; 8:18-19; 9:11; 1 Kings 18:17-40)
- **Miracle/Mighty work -**

C. Purpose of Miracles

(Hebrews 2:1-4; John 4:29; Acts 8:6-8; Acts 9:42; Matthew 12:28; Luke 4:18; John 9:3; Matthew 9:8)

I. CREATION

A. God Creates Out of Nothing: (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6,9; John 1:3; Acts 17:24-25; Hebrews 11:3; Colossians 1:6; Revelation 4:11; Acts 4:24; Acts 14:15; Isaiah 45:18; Revelation 10:6; Romans 4:17)

B. God's Relation to His Creation

C. God's Good Creation (Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21, 25) and Genesis 1:31

D. Science

II. PROVIDENCE

A. Preservation - (Hebrews 1:3 Col.1.17 Acts 17:28 Nehemiah 9:6 2 Peter 3:7 Job 34:14-15 Psalm 104:29)

B. Concurrence

- **Inanimate Objects -** (Ephesians 1.11 Ps. 148:8 Job 37:6-13 Job 38:22-30 Psalm 135:6 Psalm 135:7 Psalm 104:4 Psalm 104:14 Matthew 5:45)

- **Animate Creatures** - (Psalm 104:27-29 Job 38:39-41 Matt 6:26 Matt. 10:29)
- **“Chance” Events** - (Proverbs 16:33 Jonah 1:7)
- **Human Events** - (Job 12:23 Psalm 22:28 Acts 17:26; 14:16 Daniel 4:34-35 Proverbs 21:1)
 - **Food comes from God** (Matthew 6.11, Phil 4:19)
 - **Our days are planned before birth** (Ps. 139:16; Job 14:5; Galatians 1:15; Jeremiah 1:15; Acts 17:28; Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 20:24; Proverbs 16:9; Proverbs 16:1)
 - **Success and Failure** (Ps75:6-7; Luke 1:52; Ps. 127:3)
 - **Controls Leaders** (Pro. 21:1; Ezra 6:22; Ezra 1:1)
 - **Controls the hearts of people** (Psalm 33:14-15; Phillipians 2:13)
- **What about Evil?**
 - **Genesis 45:5 evil of Joseph’s brother;** Genesis 50:20 also see Psalm 105:17
 - **Hardening Pharaoh’s heart** Exodus 4:21; Exodus 7:3; 9:12; 10:20; 11:10; 14:8 (foretold 4:21 and 7:3) Romans 9:17 Exodus 14:17 and Psalm 105:25
 - **Canaanites hardened** (Joshua 11:20; Judges 3:12; 9:23) Judges 14:14
 - **Eli’s sons 1 Samuel 2:25**
- **Job 1:21 and 1:22 Job blames the storm and evil men but never the Lord.**
- **Isaiah 45:7 YHWH creates “ra”**
 - Lamentations 3:38
 - Isaiah 63:17
 - Jonah 1:15 and 2:3 also Jonah 1:14
- **Crucifixion ordained by God Acts 4:27; Acts 2:23**
- **Other difficult passages:**
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12
 - 1 Peter 2:8
 - Genesis 50:20
 - Romans 8:28
 - Proverbs 16:4,
 - Proverbs 76:10
 - Romans 9:14-24
 - Luke 22:22
 - Matthew 26:24
 - Mark 14:21
 - Matt 18:7
 - James 1:13-14

C. Governance

- Psalm 103:19
- Daniel 4:35
- Romans 1:36
- 1 Corinthians 15:27
- Ephesians 1:11
- Phillipians 2:10-14
- Romans 11:36/Romans 8:28