

## THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD

(These thoughts can be of eternal value - please consider)

- A Sovereign God determines what is going to happen. Here are a few examples:
  - ▶ A world wide flood (Gen. 6:17.)
  - ▶ Promises to Abram - A land to dwell in, descendants like the sand of the sea, and that in his seed all the families of the earth would be blessed. (Gen. 12:1-3)
  - ▶ The slavery and deliverance of His people in Egypt (Gen. 15:13-16.)
  - ▶ The captivity of His people in Babylon for 70 years (Jer. 25:11-12.)
  - ▶ The birth, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
  - ▶ Etc.
- God reveals what He is going to do through His prophets. **“Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secret unto his servants the prophets” (Amos 3:7.)**
- The Devil understands the plan of God and tries to keep God’s will from coming to pass. He uses wicked men like Cain, Pharaoh, Hamaan, Herod, Judas, and others, but the promises of God always come true.
- Sometimes the actions of people hasten, or delay the will of God
  - ▶ The heresies of wicked men can bring “swift destruction” (2 Pet. 2:1.)
  - ▶ Hezekiah’s repentance added fifteen years to his life (Is. 38:5)
  - ▶ The repentance of Nineveh delayed it’s destruction from the time of Jonah (Jonah 3:9-10) to the time of Nahum (Nahum 1:1 - 3:19.)
  - ▶ Etc.
- God calls people to participate in what He is doing.
  - ▶ God used Noah, Abram, Moses, the Judges, the prophets, the apostles, etc. to accomplish His will. In each instance the success of the endeavour was in the hands of God, not man. Moses, for example, feared that his poor ability to speak would prevent God from liberating his people. Such thinking, of course, is ridiculous.
  - ▶ God called Esther to help deliver the Hebrews from wicked Hamaan. If she refused, God would bring deliverance from another place, but she was given the blessed opportunity to share in God’s great victory. (See Esther 4:14.)
- Those who oppose God and refuse to give Him glory will be destroyed.
  - ▶ This was true in the days of Noah (2 Pet. 2:5.)
  - ▶ This was true in the days of Sodom and Gomorha (2 Pet. 2:6-9.)
  - ▶ It was true in the days of Herod (Acts 12:21-23.)
  - ▶ It will still be true when Jesus comes again **“And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;” (II Th 1:7-9)**
- Those who participate with God will be rewarded. **“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” (Rev 20:12)**

Even Jesus recognized that He could do nothing by Himself. He said: **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew.” (John 5:19-20)**

**WHAT ABOUT YOU? WILL YOU PARTICIPATE WITH GOD OR OPPOSE HIM?**