

ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

BOOK: *Our God Is Awesome By Dr. Tony Evans*

May 3, 2026

LESSON 1: THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

(Psa. 24:1; 115:3; 135:6)

INTRODUCTION:

God's sovereignty is the Biblical Doctrine that God is the Supreme, absolute ruler and controller of all creation, possessing the power and authority to bring about His, and only His, desired purposed. It means nothing happens without His permission, and no power can stop His Plans. This includes sovereignty over nature, nations, and human actions. Sovereignty can also include the way God exercises His ruling Power.

GOD'S ABSOLUTE RULE

God's sovereignty concerns His **absolute** rule and control over all His creation. God rules **absolutely** over the affairs of men. He sits on the throne of the universe as Lord. Everything that happens comes about because He either directly causes it or consciously allows it. Nothing enters history or could ever exist outside of history that does not come under the complete control of God. Once you understand God's sovereignty, you realize nobody can be autonomous from Him.

GOD DOES WHAT HE PLEASES

The sovereignty of God means that He exercises His prerogative to do whatever He pleases with His creation; simply because it's all His. **Psa. 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."**

- **God Rules** -God rules, even when it looks like He's not ruling. When chaos appears, He's ruling the chaos. When things are falling apart; He's ruling the falling apart of those things. **Job 23:13, "But He stands alone, and who can oppose Him? He does whatever He pleases."** (Other Ref. Job 42:2 – Prov. 16:4 – Isa. 45:7)
- **God Decides and Our Decision – (Prov. 16:9 – Ex. 4:11)** God decides refers to divine sovereignty, where God ultimately directs human steps, determines outcomes, and ordains events, even while humans make their own plans or possess free will. It signifies trust, faith, and often using both good and bad situations for a greater purpose.
- **Sovereignty and Prayer (James 4:2)** God has determined what He's going to do, but He will not do certain things until we make the choice to pray. No one prevents the Plan of God. All we can do is cooperate with it.
- **Created By Him (I Cor. 8:6)** You exist for God. That is why you were created to bring God Glory and to accomplish His purposes on earth. That's why you find no rest in life until you rest in Him.

ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

BOOK: *Our God Is Awesome* by Dr. Tony Evans

May 10, 2026

LESSON 2 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD: GOD'S GLORY AND WILL

(Psa. 115:4; Daniel 4:35; Jude 24:25)

INTRODUCTION:

God's sovereignty is the foundation of how He works in the world. Everything God does is tied to **His glory**: the display of His attributes and **His will**: the execution of His purpose. Man may not want to submit to God; however, we must remember that God rules and reigns. No one will ever knock Him off His sovereign throne. Understanding this shapes how we trust Him, follow Him, and see ourselves in His plan.

FOREVER SOVEREIGN

God's sovereignty is not dependent on human approval or circumstances. We can't box Him in, confine Him, or limit God. He is infinite in nature. He has always ruled and will always rule. The following attributes guarantee His sovereign rule:

- **omnipotence**-He's all-powerful, there is nothing He can't do. **Rev. 19:6; Jer. 32:17**
- **omniscience**-He's all-knowing. **I John 3:20; Heb. 4:13; Isa. 46:9-10**
- **omnipresence**-God is everywhere at the same time. **Prov. 15:3; Jer. 3:23:24**

A GREAT EXAMPLE

God never abuses His sovereignty. God models righteous authority with humility and compassion. In Daniel 4:29-31 Nebuchadnezzar got the big head, and God immediately stripped him of his authority. Only after Nebuchadnezzar started thinking right about God and acknowledged God's sovereignty was his kingdom restored.

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down. Daniel 4:37

SOVEREIGNTY and STATUS

Nebuchadnezzar found out that God doesn't play. It is God who lifts people up and brings people down. **But God is the Judge: He puts down one And exalts another.** Ps 75:7. While you respect people, you are not to be intimidated by people who have more than you have because underneath God, everyone is nothing. No matter how much money you make, how high you climb up the corporate ladder, or how many titles you obtain, it is God's sovereignty which determines your worth. We all stand on ground level at Calvary. You are who you are because God made you that way.

But by the grace of God, I am what I am. I Cor. 15:10;

So, God created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him; male and female He created them. Gen. 1:27

ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

BOOK: *Our God Is Awesome* by Dr. Tony Evans

May 17, 2026

LESSON 3 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD: AND OUR SIN

(Rom 1:18, 33-36; Isa 6:3; Ps 5:4; 1 John 1:5, 3; Eph 1:11-12; Rom 8:28)

INTRODUCTION:

God's sovereignty means He rules over all things, including allowing sinful acts to occur to fulfill His ultimate good, and holy purposes, without being the author of sin Himself. While God governs all events, humans remain one hundred percent accountable for their sinful choices, creating a tension where divine control and human responsibility coexist.

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND OUR SIN

Many might question since God is sovereign, why did He allow the existence and proliferation of evil, especially in light of the fact God hates sin (**Roman 1:18**), is completely holy, (**Isaiah 6:3**), and cannot sin (**Psalms 5:4; 1 John 1:5**) or tempt others to do so (**John 1:13**). God does everything for His greatest glory (**Ephesians 1:11-12**), God will get more glory with the existence of sin than without it because God's attributes are most clearly demonstrated against the backdrop of sin.

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND OUR PERSPECTIVE

- **Strength** – Paul says, “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (**Philippians 4:13**) True strength is found not in self-reliance, but in surrendering to God's sovereign control.
- **Comfort in Circumstances** - God's sovereign gives comfort, peace, strength, and presence during difficult times. Key promises include God's closeness to the brokenhearted, (**Psalms 34:18**), rest for the weary, (**Matthew 11:28**), and a promise that He works all things for good (**Romans 8:28**)
- **Confidence** – The components of confidence in God's sovereignty are security in adversity, freedom from fear, purposeful living, humility in success, and perspective on failure. (**Romans 1:33-36; Proverbs 16:4**)
- **The Whole Picture** – The “whole picture” as a sovereignly directed, unfolding story of God's redemption and glory, asserting that while humans see only a partial, “dim” reflection, God is actively orchestrating all events—good and bad—for the ultimate good of His purposes (**Romans 8:28**).
- **Sovereignty and Impossibilities** – The scripture asserts that “what is impossible for humans is possible for God (**Matthew 19:26**). Often turning situations of human limitation, failure, or impossible odds into demonstrations of His power and purpose.

ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

BOOK: *Our God Is Awesome* by Dr. Tony Evans

May 24, 2026

LESSON 4 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD: GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND WORSHIP

(I Chronicles 29:6-7;10-13, Isa. 6:1)

INTRODUCTION:

The sovereignty of God should lead us to enthusiastic worship of Him. We should worship Him because He gives us the air we breathe every day. He provides us with everything we need. People who don't understand the sovereignty of God, who think they did this all by themselves, may just as well go to "Bedside Baptist" or "Mattress Methodist." God's sovereignty is His absolute rule over creation and history, is the foundational fuel of Biblical history. Authentic worship recognizes God's control, turning surrender into praise and aligning personal will with His Divine, purposeful, and according to omniscient and loving plan.

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND WORSHIP

Worshipping God is an act of heartfelt adoration, gratitude, and surrender that goes beyond Sunday services to encompass all of life. It involves honoring God's Power, holiness, and love through daily actions, obedience, prayer, and song. We can praise Him because His sovereignty generates trust, produces power, and springs hope in this life and the next. Worshipping a sovereign God means acknowledging that He is on the throne, allowing His authority to govern our lives, and trusting His mercy. True worship is a lifestyle that recognizes God's worthiness in every situation.

GIVING GOD HONOR

Giving honor to God means elevating Him to the highest place of esteem in life through worship, obedience, and sincere gratitude. It involves loving Him with all one's heart, soul, mind, and strength, and treating the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit. This is achieved daily through prayer, studying scripture, *giving*, and living truthfully. Ultimately, honoring God transforms one's inner life, leading to a closer connection with Him. God deserves your worship, your homage. He deserves you bowing before His face, glorifying His name. He deserves your passionate worship.

GOD WANTS YOUR WORSHIP

Why Does God Demand, Seek, or Request That We Worship? (John 4:23, Ex.20:3, I John 1:5; 4:8; 5:20)

Worship is not merely a ritual, but a heartfelt recognition of God's nature and actions. God desires worship, not out of insecurity or a need for affirmation, but because **He is Worthy to be Praise**, and it is for human benefit, bringing joy, transformation, and purpose.

True worship in love and humility helps people align with truth, fosters unity, and prevents the destruction of focusing on lesser idols.

ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

BOOK: *Our God Is Awesome* by Dr. Tony Evans

May 31, 2026

LESSON 5 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD: THE SUMMATION

INTRODUCTION:

God is spoken of as Sovereign King throughout the Bible. He possesses and exercises absolute authority, rule and governance over all things. **“The Lord reigned: He is clothed with majesty; is the opening line of Psalm 93 –the Lord is clothes with strength, wherewith He hath girded Himself, the world also is established firm and secure.”** It opens with a hymn celebrating God’s sovereign power, eternal reign, and strength.

The Lord God Almighty Reigns Supreme! In the prayer that Jesus taught His Disciples, there is a solemn affirmation of God’s sovereignty: **“For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, Forever, Amen.” (Matt. 6:13)**

In his prayer Paul, the Apostle, bestowed praises to God as sovereign, saying, **“Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor, and glory forever and ever, Amen.” (I Tim. 1:17)**

HIS SOVEREIGNTY IS ABSOLUTE (Rev. 19:6)

Scripture teaches the absolute sovereignty of God. He rules over everything with absolute Power. God, alone, is sovereign, in its absolute sense. God’s sovereignty is the supremacy of God; from the smallest detail to major events. To say that God is sovereign is to declare that **God id God**. God has no equals and requires no permission,

HIS SOVEREIGNTY IS UNIVERSAL (Psa. 103:19)

He immanently and personally rules over everything that there is. In other words, there is nothing that functions outside His Divine rule, and nothing takes place without His permission.

HIS SOVEREIGNTY IS IMMUTABLE) Jer. 10:10, Psa. 10:16, Dan. 4:3, I Tim. 1:17)

The Sovereign of God is unchanging, for He is “an everlasting King. The Lord’s dominion does not depend on the willingness of people to bow to His reign. Nothing outside His limits or prevents Him from exercising His Power.

CONCLUSION

The absolute perfect Sovereignty of God should move our hearts to adore His greatness in humble worship, submitting ourselves to His reign and decrees. It also encourages us to trust with full assurance, as we know His Sovereignty guarantees the fulfillment of all His Promises, His Sovereignty, also, affords comfort and courage to all those who serve Him.