

“God’s Providential Provision”

pt. 31 — Philippians 4:19

To Live is Christ

INTRODUCTION

- appearance v. reality

- the mystery of God’s dealings with man
 - + in His provision
Phil. 4:19; Isa. 55:8-9

 - + in His incarnation

1. The ‘free will’ of man

- does evil come exclusively from the sinful choices of man?

Jms. 1:13; Hab. 1:13; Deut. 32:4; Ps. 92:15
Isa. 66:3-4

“Open theism claims that because God has given us free will, even he cannot know what choices we will make and so the portion of the future that will be determined by still-unmade free human choices is ‘open’ and unknown to him as well as to us.”
— Mark Talbot

Emmanuel Bible Notes

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2. The sovereignty of God

- did God create evil?
Col. 1:16; Rev. 4:11
Ps. 22:28; Prov. 21:1; Ps. 33:14-15

Isa. 45:7; Amos 3:6

+ hardening Pharaoh’s heart
Ex. 7:3; 8:15; 9:12, 34; 10:20

+ sending Joseph to Egypt
Gen. 45:4-8; 50:20

+ crucifying the Son of God
Acts 2:22-23

- God’s “providence”
Prov. 16:4

“The problem of God’s relation to sin remains a mystery.”
— Louis Berkhof

APPLICATION

- asserting free will apart from God’s sovereignty...

“If there is a single molecule in this universe running around loose, totally free from God’s sovereignty, then we have no guarantee that a single promise of God will ever be fulfilled.”
— R.C. Sproul

- asserting God’s sovereignty apart from my action...
Phil. 2:13