

Fulfilling God's Purpose while Fighting His Plan:

The Mystery of Providence

Acts 23:12-35

November 21, 2021

Do you benefit from a car? Do you understand how it works? Can you fix it?

Why is the doctrine of God's providence easy to understand but difficult to accept?

Providence is the working out in history what God has decreed eternally for His glory and our good.

We have Scriptural examples of God's wise providence.

(Acts 2:23, Daniel 4:35, Genesis 50:20, Isaiah 46:10, Proverbs 19:21, 16:9, 21:30)

The decisions of men, even evil men, can only contribute to God's good purpose.

Man's Plan

The conspiracy to assassinate Paul. (John 16:2)

Man's intention and purpose is pitted against God's intention and purpose.

God's Providence

The Lord promised Paul that he will testify about him in Rome.

In the providence of God

Paul's Nephew, Roman Citizenship, Roman Justice

Who was Felix?

Claudius Lysias gathers 470 Romans soldiers and writes to Felix.

Notes about God's Providence

Where do we see Jesus in the text?

God sovereignly controls our free actions - all for his ultimate purpose.

God's ultimate purpose in weaving of providence is not yet complete.

Pardon on Dust!

What about all the evil, the evil that has been done to me?

Evil men cannot hinder the providence of God

Godly questions cannot rush the providence of God.

But we can trust the providence of God, and find rest.