**GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY IN CHRIST’S COMING**  
**MATTHEW 1:1-17; GALATIANS 4:4-5**

**Introduction:**
In *Matthew 1:1-17*, we find in Scripture what appears to be a “boring” genealogy. However, as one looks at that genealogy we can see that it shows the very hand of God bringing His will to pass—i.e. The Sovereignty of God.

What do we mean by the Sovereignty of God? The word “sovereign” according to Webster’s Dictionary has the following meanings:

1. Above all others; chief; supreme.
2. Supreme in power or rank.
3. Of or holding the position of ruler; reigning.
4. Independent of all others.

Many times we hear the word sovereign used in relation to a nation. However, in reality there is NO NATION that is truly sovereign.

I remember back in 2001 when President Bush was giving a speech after the September 11 attacks. He said something in that speech regarding our pursuit of the terrorists responsible for the attacks: “We will not tire, we will not falter, we will not fail.”

I liked that at the time he said it. It had a very definitive and resolved sound about it. As a nation, we were determined to do something about what had happened! The only problem is the ability to back it up. If the United States were truly “sovereign,” then there would be and could be no doubt about whether we could carry that plan out! But understand that the United States is not “sovereign.” Only God is! Our nation can do ONLY what God allows us to do as a nation and no more!

To us who are Believers in Christ, the sovereignty of God should be a source of peace in the midst of this troubled world!

Everything that comes our way as Believers, comes to us God filtered! What we see and view from the various news outlets can appear to be full of chaos and uncertainty! However, what appears to be chaos to us is actually an ordered process that is controlled by God to fulfill His very will!

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**I. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER EVERY WORLD LEADER!**

*(1 Timothy 6:13-16)*

Psalm 75:6-7—“For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.”

You name the country. You name the leader. **Whoever they are they are only there because God is allowing them to be there! They cannot go beyond God’s decree!**

Remember when Fidel Castro was in power in Cuba? He could only do what God allowed him to do! His brother that is now in power there—the same applies to him! Whoever might come after him—the same applies to him!

The same is true in our nation. President Trump can only do what God allows him to do! **EVERY world leader is subject to the limitations and the decrees of God!**

**A. God Was Sovereign Over Pharaoh In Moses Day!**

Of course we know Pharaoh was the mighty ruler of Egypt who oppressed the Israelites! God sent Moses, His servant to deliver a message from God!

*Exodus 5:1–2—*“And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.”

Pharaoh THOUGHT that he was in control, but he wasn’t!

*Exodus 9:16—*“And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to show in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.”
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B. God Was Sovereign Over Sennacherib In Hezekiah’s Day!
(2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chronicles 32:1-22)
The King of Assyria who besieged Judah and King Hezekiah.
Sennacherib blasphemed the name of the LORD God!
Hezekiah prayed.
The Angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians 185,000.

C. God Was Sovereign Over Nebuchadnezzar In Daniel’s Day!
(Daniel 4:30-37)
King of Babylon of whom God gave Judah over into his hands. He allowed his pride to bring him down! When God got through with him, he was humbled and said:
Daniel 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

D. God Was Sovereign Over Pilate In Jesus’ Day.
(John 19:9-11)

E. God Will Be Sovereign Over The Tribulation Coalition In The Antichrist’s Day! (Revelation 17:10-14; 19:16)

F. God Is Sovereign Over The Leaders Of Our Day!
1 Timothy 2:1-4 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER EVERY WORLD LEADER!

II. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER EVERY OTHER GOD!
God is Sovereign above all other gods because there are no other gods in reality other than in the hearts and minds of men.

I’m not going to take time to look up all these Scriptures with you, but I give them to you to look up and study on your own!

Judges 16:23-24; 1 Samuel 5:2-7; Psalm 96; Psalm 115; Isaiah 44; Jeremiah 10:1-16

III. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER EVERY INDIVIDUAL!
(Psalm 33:8ff)
The orderliness of Matthew’s genealogy shows that God is in control and can use anybody for His purposes! Lets just name a few here:

(Jacob, was a schemer, liar, and thief; Judah, was a whoremonger; Ruth, was a Moabite; Rahab, a harlot; David, was guilty of adultery, stealing, and murder; Solomon and Rehoboam, became idolators!)

Whoa! Maybe there is hope for us after all!
This genealogy really is a message of hope in the midst of despair!

IV. GOD IS SOVEREIGN IN THE COMINGS OF CHRIST!
Matthew’s “boring” genealogy teaches a hope-filled truth here:
God Moves History Forward In An ORDERLY And PURPOSEFUL Way Even When It May Appear Otherwise!
(Vs 17) Let’s look at the numbers here:

A. SEVEN or any multiple of seven – like 14 which we see here symbolized PERFECTION or COMPLETENESS!

B. FOURTEEN is also the number that represents DELIVERANCE or SALVATION!
Here we see 14 generations THREE times in verse 17.
C. **THREE** (There are **THREE** sets of 14 generations here)  
**THREE** is the number of **DIVINE COMPLETENESS** and **PERFECTION** and the number of **RESURRECTION**.

It is the number of **GOD...THE HOLY TRINITY**!

The relation of Jehovah God to eternity is given in the **THREE-FOLD** expression:  
Revelation 1:4 “...from him which is, and which was, and which is to come...”

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

The number **THREE** means “**GOD IS IN IT**!”

D. **FORTY-TWO** (3 sets of 14 generations = 42)  
42 is the number associated with **ISRAEL’S OPPRESSION**, and **THE LORD’S ADVENT** to earth!

There is not enough time tonight to develop this fully and show you this is the case but I encourage you to study it out!

The point is with all these numbers is that God is in control and the genealogy was perfectly planned!

**Conclusion**

So, why is all this given to us here in the Scripture?

1. **So that we know as Believers that our God is Sovereign**—He is in absolute control!  
   Do you believe that? I hope you do because it is absolutely true!

2. **So that we know that just as the LORD WAS Sovereign in the First Advent (or Coming) Of Christ, He IS also Sovereign in the Second Advent (or Coming) Of Christ**!