

Day 73 – May 10

Is God's will here on earth dependent on us? Are we free to foil God's plan as we are free to follow it? Can we stop God from doing God's will? These questions get at the root of God's sovereignty in this world, and what we believe about that dictates and determines much of the rest of our faith.

I have heard from people my whole life that they have to do God's will if that will is to succeed. "But if I don't tell my neighbors about Jesus, they may never hear!" Put more poetically, "You may be the only bible someone reads." Whenever I hear this sentiment, I get uncomfortable. While it may be a good motivator to accomplish God's will, I can't believe it is true. I believe God is more sovereign than that.

Today, as with so many stories from the Old Testament, we see that God's will is far too big to depend on us. If we won't work to accomplish it, then God will just use someone else, and we are the ones to miss out. Think of Jeroboam II. "He did what was evil in the Lord's sight." Yet since God couldn't find anyone else to help His people, "He used Jeroboam II to save them."

Before we ever begin to think we can foil God's plans, or that His will is dependent on our obedience, take a step back and ponder God's sovereignty and His story (the bible). Again and again, God uses bad, faulty, and even evil people to accomplish His will. From Jonah the coward to Samson the depraved to Jacob the swindler, God uses broken humanity to do His perfect will.

So seek God's will and do your best to make it happen. And don't worry about your sinfulness, as if that could stop God. Confess, repent, and get back to work. God will use you as He sees fit. And if He can do all He did through broken vessels like Jeroboam II, He can do anything through you!