

28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, **God gave them over** to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; 32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also **give hearty approval** to those who practice them.

Discussion Guide

1. Have you been more compelled by our study of Jonah to speak more openly about God and the gospel? If so, share your experience(s).
2. Before today's sermon, how would you have defined God's will? Now, after hearing it, how would you explain it?
3. Do you believe the study of theodicy is important? Why or why not?
4. What are some important truths that keep us from falling into heresy when describing God's permissive will?
5. Look ahead in the story and see if you can see the good that God brought out of Jonah's sin.

ANSWERS: God's Will, Theodicy, evil, decreed, revealed, permissive, direct, approve, fulfill, restraint



Lesson: 4
Series: Jonah's Journey
Title: God's Will
Text: Jonah 1:5-16
Date: January 16, 2022

Jonah 1:5-16

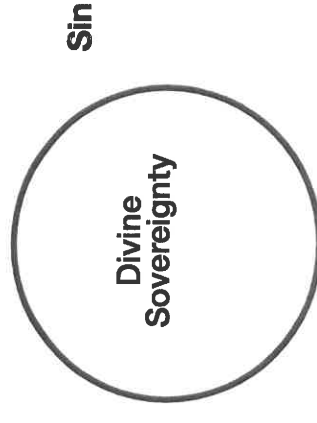
Primary implication of the book.

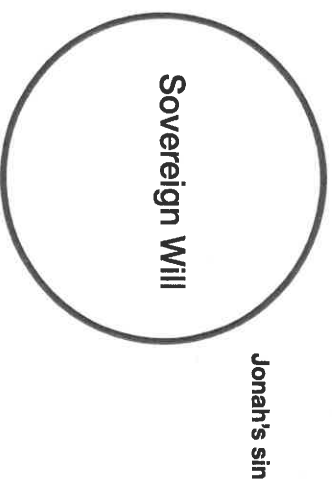
1. Are we running from our obedience to the great commission?

What is our parallel with Jonah?

Are we hiding in silence while those around us are drowning in the storm of God's judgment?

Topic for today





So we are caught in a conundrum.

1. If we deny that Jonah's sin was outside of God's will or control then we deny God's sovereignty.
2. If we say that Jonah's sin was within His will then it sounds like we are blaming God for evil.

The relationship between God and evil is called

"theos" (God) - "dike" (justice)

Theodicy is a branch of theology that tries to reconcile the existence of _____ in light of God's holiness.

God has the power to stop sin but He sometimes chooses not to do so.

God actively chooses to let sin succeed by removing His power of _____ in the human heart.

Romans 1:18-32 - Abandonment wrath

Romans 1:21-32 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

24 Therefore **God gave them over** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. 25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

26 For this reason **God gave them over** to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

3. Although God never approves of sin, He permits

it in order to _____ His
ultimate will.

Genesis 50:19–20 19 But Joseph said to them, “Do not
be afraid, for am I in God's place?

20 “As for you, you **MEANT** evil against me, but God
MEANT it for good

“meant” [hsb] -

in order to bring about this present result, to preserve
many people alive.

God's permissive will is central to the cross.

Acts 2:23 this Man, delivered over by the
predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God,

you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men
and put Him to death.

One other important feature of God's permissive will.

How does the existence of evil relate to God's will?

1. God's _____ will.

His decreed will guarantees that all that He
wills will certainly come to pass.

Our salvation is an expression of God's decreed will.

Ephesians 1:11 also we have obtained an inheritance,
having been predestined according to His purpose
who works all things after the counsel of His will.

His decreed will is described by Isaiah.

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And
from ancient times things which have not been done,
Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will
accomplish all My good pleasure';

His decreed will cannot be changed or nullified.

Psalms 135:6 Whatever the Lord pleases, He does, In
heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps.

God's decreed will for Jonah.

Jonah 3:3-2 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh
according to the word of the Lord. ...

2. God's _____ will.

This includes what God has revealed in His Word.

Jonah 1:1-2 The word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me."

3. God's _____ will.



Clarifying truths about God's Permissive will.

1. God is never the _____ or primary
cause of sin or evil.

2. God does not _____
of the sin that He permits.