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Tree of Life

weekly teaching summary



The Doctrine of the Divine Decree. On the border between the infinite and the finite.

Grace Bible Church**Tree of Life****A Weekly Review****Week ending 07/04/2010****The Doctrine of the Divine Decree.****On the border between the infinite and the****Point one. Definition:**

The decree of God is His eternal (always existed), holy (perfect integrity), wise (perfect creation), and sovereign purpose, comprehending simultaneously all things that exist under certain conditions (status), successions (interaction with others that leads to certain decisions), and parts of their future. The term *decree of God* appears in the singular, since God knows all things at a glance. For convenience, the separate features of this plan may be called decrees. The decree, will be altered by omissions or additions. Nor is it true that God does something go on in His universe that is unrelated. God sustains a distinct purpose and intention.

Point 2. The decree of God is His eternal (always existed), holy (perfect integrity), wise (perfect creation), and sovereign purpose, comprehending simultaneously all things that exist under certain conditions (status), successions (interaction with others that leads to certain decisions), and certain futurity.

Point 3: The order of the divine decrees (lapsarianism).

Of all the decrees, five of them are related to the purpose of God in election - the Biblical lapsarianism:

- a. The decree to create.
- b. The decree to permit the fall.
- c. Unlimited atonement.
- d. The decree to motivate through the deposit of escrow blessings.
- e. The simultaneous decrees of election and predestination, and to apply salvation.

Point 4: Standing on the border between the infinite and the finite.

God is able to create and not create, to allow and not allow, and that sin and evil do not accomplish God's great plan. Sin is fully hated by God but through the unlimited mercy of God and for all, therefore there can never be a condemnation for those who are in Christ.

Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death. Sin is not the issue anymore, but r
Focus on the solution and not the problem. Such contemplation should never lessen the hum
hatred for sin, nor be any encouragement to a creature to sin. We will sin ignorantly and wil
are forgiven of any of it was the death of Christ. We are not to focus on it in ourselves or oth
lightly that you put your lifestyle into it and imagine there is no consequence. The deeds of
will destroy our lives if we let it reign over us.

**Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts, and d
members of your body to sin *as* instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourself
the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not
are not under law, but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under
it never be! Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone *as*
of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in
be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to th
which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righ**

That sin is infinitely evil is demonstrated by the ruin it has wrought among the angels, the p
with all its woes, and the fact that no cure for sin could be found at a less cost than the blood
believer has to find the balance between giving himself grace and forgiving others and the d
lifestyle of sin that keeps him away from fellowship with God. Both immoral and moral deg
of people's lives. So when you're standing on the threshold of the infinite and you find your
questions as to why God did this and why He did that, remember something:
It is a dangerous thing for a finite creature to sit in judgement upon the course that God purs
should be fully trusted. Blessed is he who trusts in the Lord.

He has done all things well; ([MAR 7:37](#))

**As for me, I shall behold Thy face in righteousness; I will be satisfied with Thy likeness
[17:15](#))**

So as we stand on the threshold of the infinite and the finite the main thing you want to rem
is impossible to please God and that the decree should give you security, confidence, courag
soul.

Point 5: The will of God - Directive, Permissive, and Overruling.

Directive will of God: What God desires me to think, to do, and where to go. This is focused
unbeliever has but one directive from God - **believe on the Lord Jesus and be saved.**
will of God into seven categories:

**1. It is the will of God that every member of the human race be born again —
should perish.”**

And the world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God

**And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and
He commanded us. ([1JO 3:23](#))**

2. It is the will of God that all believers be experientially sanctified. (We are speaking h

sanctification which is *staying in fellowship*). [1TH 4:3](#) carries the idea that a believer is by being in fellowship with Him so that believers will be under His direction. **For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the [unbelievers] who do not know God; *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother; for the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly testified, that he who is not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification. Consequently, he who is not a man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you. ([1TH 4:3-8](#))**

3. It is the will of God that all believers be controlled (filled) with the Holy Spirit.

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, (

4. It is the will of God that we give thanks in everything: ([1TH 5:18](#) correlated with

In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ([1TH 5:18](#)

If you are going to do the will of God, if you are going to be guided by God, this must be your goal. It will be quite a problem since not all things that come into our lives can be qualified as pleasant. There will be a deal of suffering, tragedy, and adversity in our lives, but you don't have to be concerned because of the purpose for it designed by God in EP.

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God according to *His* purpose. ([ROM 8:28](#))

With capacity through doctrine suffering will be a blessing for you. The promise is not that all things work together for good. Since that is true, and will be true to the believer with a strong faith, thank the Lord for everything that comes into your life; the suffering, the adversities, the trials, the blessings, the successes and the victories. Suffering is designed to bless us; therefore I can give thanks. Discipline is designed to remind us to use 1 John 1:9; therefore I can give thanks for discipline. Doctrine supplies capacity for suffering.

5. It is the will of God that believers suffer. Since it is God's will that you suffer (suffering is blessing.

For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong. ([1PE 3:17](#))

Therefore, let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator who does what is right. [1PE 4:19](#))

Suffering is:

- a. God's way of blessing the believer.
- b. God's way of bringing maturity (edification complex) in a quicker way.
- c. God's way of directing our attention to the things that are really important in life such as: Knowing doctrine.

6. It is the will of God for every believer to trust the Lord.
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding.

**from the hills; Behold, a people *who* dwells apart, And shall not be reckoned among the
the dust of Jacob, Or number the fourth part of Israel?**

**Let me die the death of the upright, And let my end be like his!” Then Balak said to Balaam,
done to me? I took you to curse my enemies, but behold, you have actually blessed them.
said, “Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?” (NUM 23:5-6)**

Balak takes Balaam to another place to overlook another portion of Israel hoping that Balaam
again Balaam blesses them.

**Then Balak said to Balaam, “Do not curse them at all nor bless them at all!”
Balak, “Did I not tell you, ‘Whatever the LORD speaks, that I must do’?” (NUM 23:25-26)**

Balaam blesses them yet again and then prophesies the destruction of Balak and the coming of
Israel is blessed by the Lord in the land, but notice what they do.

**While Israel remained at Shittim, the people began to play the harlot with the daughters
invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to
themselves to Baal of Peor, and the LORD was angry against Israel. (NUM 25:1-2)**

Once again, as so often we see of the people of God, God allows evil, but overrules it in His

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