

Collinsville-Troy CHURCH OF CHRIST

Providence

Winter 2024

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Introduction to Providence

1. What is deism? Is it a Biblical worldview?

2. How is providence defined? Acts 24:2, Romans 13:14

3. Is there a distinction between miracles and providence? If so, what is that difference?
Hebrews 2:4, Genesis 50:20

4. How do the promises of God prove His providential work? Matthew 6:33, 10:29-31, 1
Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 13:5-6

5. Is it possible for God's providence to be at work even in tragedy? Romans 8:28

6. What characteristics of God are important to remember when discussing providence? Isaiah
55:8

Providence? Maybe, Maybe Not

1. What is James' advice on how we should involve providence in our life and thinking? James 4:13-17, Proverbs 27:1, 1 John 5:14-15
2. Is everything the result of God's providence? Ecclesiastes 9:11, Romans 15:22 (v. 14-21), Acts 16:6-7
3. How did Paul view God's providence? Philemon 1:15
4. Why must we be careful to ascribe an event or circumstance to the providence of God? Job 1:22, James 1:13
5. Why do you think God does not make His providence more evident in certain situations? Proverbs 3:5, Jeremiah 17:7-8
6. Does God's providence depend on us being able to know when and how He works? Ecclesiastes 3:11, 8:16-17
7. Is there anything in your life that you feel may have been the result of God's providence?

Providence and Free Will

1. How can you prove that we have free will? Genesis 1:26-27, Deuteronomy 28:1,15 Joshua 24:15, Matthew 23:37-39

2. Why do so many believe that God has a specific plan for their lives? (That He has determined what their careers will be, where they will live, who they might marry etc.)
Jeremiah 29:11

3. What is God's ultimate will for us? 1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9, Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, Matthew 5-7, Colossians 3:5-17

4. Is there always one "right" choice to make? Consider the following:

Why did Paul decide to send Timothy to Thessalonica? 1 Thessalonians 3:1-2

Why did Paul decide to send Epaphroditus back to Philippi? Philippians 2:25-26

5. Considering these facts, how should we make decisions? Matthew 6:33, Colossians 1:9-10, Philippians 2:4, 1 Corinthians 10:24, John 8:29

6. How is it possible for God's providence to be at work regardless of what decision we make?

Providential Promises

1. What promise is made to us in 1 Corinthians 10:13?

2. In what ways could God providentially fulfill this promise? Genesis 39:7-12, 1 Peter 2:11, Psalm 119:11, Matthew 4:1-11, Matthew 6:13, 26:41, 1 Peter 5:8, 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

3. What promise does God make to us in Matthew 6:25-33?

a. What condition is placed on this promise?

4. Why must we not trust in our wealth? 1 Timothy 6:17

a. What can we do to put our trust in God? Matthew 6:11, Exodus 16:31-35

5. What promise is made to us in Hebrews 13:5-6?

6. Should this promise bring fear or comfort? Hebrews 4:13, Amos 9:1-4, Psalm 139:7-12, Luke 12:4-7

Providence and Government

1. How is God's providence involved in government? Romans 13:1-7, Daniel 2:21, 4:25,32

2. What are some biblical examples of providence at work in government?

3. How did God answer Habakkuk's cries for help? Habakkuk 1:1-11

a. What was Habakkuk's response? Habakkuk 1:12-13

b. How can God be just while using a wicked nation to fulfill His will? Habakkuk 2:6-20, Galatians 6:7-8

4. What can Christians do to preserve their nation? 1 Timothy 2:1-4, Proverbs 14:23, Matthew 5:13-16, Genesis 18:22-33, Jeremiah 5:1

“The Lord Will Provide”

1. What promises were made to Abraham? Genesis 12:1-3, 15:1-4, 17:15-19
2. What did God promise concerning Isaac? Genesis 21:12
3. How did God test Abraham? Genesis 22:1-2
4. What do Abraham’s statements in Genesis 22:5,8 imply?
5. Why did he have such great faith? Hebrews 11:17-19
6. How is God’s providence seen in this event? Genesis 22:10-13
7. Why did Abraham name the place of the sacrifice? Genesis 22:14
(For those with the KJV or ASV, what is the meaning of the name?)
8. How can we imitate his confidence in God’s providence? James 2:14-26, Jeremiah 32:17, Ephesians 3:20, Hebrews 6:13-20

The Lives of Joseph and Esther

Joseph

Trace the providence of God through the record of Joseph's life- Genesis 37, 39-50

1. What was Joseph's outlook on what happened? Genesis 50:19-20 2
2. What good came from these events? Genesis 42-49 3.
3. How does this account fit into the larger narrative of the Old Testament? Genesis 15:13 16, Exodus 1:8-14 4.
4. What does this account teach us about providence?

Esther

1. What Led to Esther becoming queen? Esther 1-2 2.
2. Why did Haman want to kit the Jews? Ester 3 3.
3. How did God deliver the Jews? Esther 4-9 4.
4. Why was Mordecai confident that God would deliver them? Esther 4:14 (Genesis 12:3)
5. What does this account teach us about providence?