

Today's Message Outline: "Sovereignty"

Two Truths About Life:

1. Humans, on the inside, are culpable and capable of great evil, sin, brokenness and dysfunction.
2. Humans, from the outside, are vulnerable and victimized by great evil, sin, brokenness and dysfunction.

(see Ps. 14:3; Rom. 7:18; Titus 1:15; Jer. 17:9; Eph. 2:1-2; 4:18)

Our response to these things is usually either one of two things:

1. **Moralism** is a religious response that God operates in a tit-for-tat. We attempt to live a holier life, suspecting that this will remove the problems on the inside and cause God to protect us from problems from the outside.
2. **Cynicism** is a non-religious response that God doesn't operate at all. It's the belief that God doesn't work in our lives, care about our lives or even exist.

Sovereignty is:

1. A **belief** that despite the circumstances of our lives, God is working and even with us.
2. An **assurance** that God loves us regardless of what evil is inside or outside of us.
3. An **interaction** between God's purposes and our choices that bring the possibility of a change in our lives.

(see Gen. 50:20; Romans 5:6-8; 8:28; 8:38-39; Phil. 2:13)