

Does God Have a Plan for His Universe?

Q&A #7: **What are the decrees of God?** The decrees of God are his eternal purpose according to the counsel of his will, whereby for his own glory, he has foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Key texts: God's will is... eternal (Eph. 1:4), absolute (Is. 46:10, Ps. 33:11), for his glory (Rom. 11:33-36 Prov 16-4) all encompassing (Eph. 1:11, Job 14:5, Prov.16:4)

Does God plan like we plan? (e.g. house plans made before laying the foundation)

- God's plans are _____ (eternal)
- God's plans are _____ (absolute)
- God's plans are _____ (for his own glory)

Is there really any such thing as an accident or chance? (see Prov. 16:33, II Chron. 18) What about man's free will? (Acts 2:23, Acts 13:48)

For his own glory? (Rev. 4:11) Why is it wrong for us to do things for our own glory, but not God?

What is wrong with the Deist's view of how God interacts with his creation?

Can man or Satan himself keep God's plan from being accomplished? (see Dan. 4:35)

Are God's decrees (plans) limited to just the major decisions and issues in life? (see Matt. 10:29-30)

Why does God choose some to be saved and not others?

Since God is in control of everything, if something bad happens, can we assume that God is using it for punishment?

If God is in control of everything, why doesn't he simply remove sin from the world?

How Does God Carry Out His Plan?

Q&A #8: **How does God execute his decrees?** God executes his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

Does man create? What distinguishes man's creations from God's creation?

Creation... How Did He Do That?!

Q&A #9: **What is the work of creation?** The work of creation is God's making all things of nothing by the word of his power in the space of six days- and all very good.

Key texts: Making all things (Gen. 1:1) from nothing (Heb. 11:3), by his word (Ps. 33:9) and all very good (Gen, 1:31)

What are the core pitfalls of today's non-Biblical theories of creation?

How long did it take Jesus to make wine out of water? Would it take God any longer to create anything else?

Is God's creation still "very good"? Are created things inherently evil?