



PREACHING THE CROSS
God's Remedy for a Troubled Church

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAKE ORION

Satan: An Instrument of God for Our Sanctification

Part I (The Theology)

Sunday, May 15, 2016

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TEXT: 1 Cor. 5:1-13

A Sovereign God uses Satan in the process of progressive sanctification.

I. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD AND HIS CONTROL OVER THE CREATED ORDER

A. God created all things and they exist for His Glory, Rev. 4:11.

**B. God controls all things and every event serves His purpose, Psa. 119:89;
Isa. 46:9.**

1. God determines the length of man's life, Job 14:5; Dan. 5:23.

**2. God determines all governing authorities, Dan. 4:17, 25, 32; cf., Pro 21:1;
Rom 13:1.**

II. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD AND HIS CONTROL OVER SATAN

**A. Satan and the wicked are under God's control, Pro. 16:4; Job 12:16;
Psa. 76:10.**

**1. God controlled the evil acts of men involved in the death of His Son,
John 9:10-11; Acts 2:22-23.**

2. God controls the final destiny of the Evil One, Rev 12, 13, 20.

a. Satan is cast out of heaven in Revelation 12.

b. With divine permission, Satan sets up the false kingdom in Revelation 13.

3. Satan will be divinely released at the end of the Millennial Kingdom to deceive the Nations of the Millennial Kingdom in Revelation 20.

4. Satan will ultimately be cast into the Lake of Fire, Rev 20:10.

B. Satan cannot touch God's child without divine permission, Job 1:12; 2:6.

When God allows Satan to touch believers, it is for their sanctification.

III. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD AND HIS CONTROL OVER THE SANCTIFYING PROCESS OF HIS CHILDREN, Rom. 8:28-30.

A. God uses suffering to sanctify His children, Rom. 8:18-30.

B. God allows Satan to bring about suffering to sanctify His Children, 1 Cor 5:5.

1. Satan was the means under God's sovereign control to bring Job to repentance, Job 1:12; 2:6; cf. 42:6-7

2. Paul turns Hymenaeus and Alexander over to Satan so that they would learn not to blaspheme, 1 Tim 1:20.

3. The Lord sent a Messenger of Satan to keep Paul from exalting himself, 2 Cor 12:7-10.

4. Paul decided to hand over the incestuous man to Satan, 5:5.

IV. APPLICATION

A. God uses our greatest enemy to sanctify us.

B. Even though sin is under God's control, it cannot be tolerated.

How a Firm a Foundation

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.	"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply; The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
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