

## “The Attributes of God”

### *The Freedom of God*

With the pandemic upon us, you might have a little more *free* time. But we all know that you can't do *whatever* you want to do. In fact, you may realize more than ever how restricted you really are!

Not so with the blessed Trinity. God is entirely *free*. He does whatever He pleases. Not only does He *know* what happens, not only does He *control* what happens, He does His sovereign will.

- **God does whatever He pleases among the people of earth**

Nebuchadnezzar rebelled against God (Daniel 4:30) and God drove him to eat grass like the cattle. After this period, he raised his eyes toward heaven and his reason returned to him and he said...

**Daniel 4:35**<sup>35</sup> “All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, but He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; and no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’”

Nebuchadnezzar was converted to the worship of the true and living God and part of His salvation testimony was a recognition that God is free to do whatever He pleases.

Response: As Nebuchadnezzar turned to trust the Lord for salvation, so we too should do the same. Trust in Him to deliver you from sin and trust Him everyday; He will do His own will!

- **God does whatever He pleases in nature**

Ps. 135 encourages us to praise the Lord (vv.1-4) because the Lord is great (v.5) and He does whatever He pleases in the sky, earth, and seas (v.6). He “causes” the hydrological cycle (vapors ascending), lightning, and the wind (v.7). He “smote” the firstborn of Egypt (v.8).

Response: Ps. 135:1-4 give us the response to His freedom. Praise the Lord! He does what He pleases. He's doing what He pleases in nature today with sickness or with health. The disaster our world is experiencing is meant to draw us to repentance (Luke 13:1-5).

- **God does whatever He pleases with people in political office**

**Proverbs 21:1** <sup>1</sup> The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes.

He's doing His will for those serving in public office. He raises up rulers and casts others down. He directs rulers' hearts like a farmer directs the irrigation of his field.

Response: Pray that the Lord would do His gracious will with those in public office who are making decisions for us. And that He would save them and put the fear of God in them! See 1 Timothy 2:1-4.

- **God does whatever He pleases in my life**

In Genesis 50, after his own brothers sold him into slavery and was falsely imprisoned in a foreign country, Joseph can say to his brothers, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but **God meant it** for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive." (Genesis 50:20). "God meant it" when Joseph's brothers threw him in a pit. By extension, "God meant it" also when Potiphar threw Joseph into prison on false charges. But "God meant it" in order to preserve life during a famine. You can read Genesis 41.

Response: "God meant it" for good. Know before the Lord of all the earth, who is free to do as He pleases in heaven and on earth, that He will do what is right and good (Romans 8:28-29).

*Let goods and kindred go,  
This mortal life also;  
The body they may kill:*

*God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever.*