

NOW WORD Covenant Church
THE HAND OF GOD
Sunday, April 28, 2019

Introduction: Our message today will help us **recognize God's Hand** upon our lives and our **response to His Hand**. We will cover: God's sovereignty, God's providence and God's Hand.

I Chronicles 4:10. And **Jabez** called on **the God** of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would **bless me** indeed, and **enlarge** my territory, that **YOUR HAND** would be with me, and that You would **keep me from evil**, that I may **not cause pain!**" So God granted him what he requested. (NKJV)

- **Bless** me
- **Enlarge** my territory
- **YOUR HAND** be with me
- **Keep me** from evil and pain

References: John 10:28, James 5:14-15, Numbers 27:18

POINTS TO THE MESSAGE:

1. GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY: God is supreme and has the **absolute** power, authority and control over everything.

Genesis 1:1. In the beginning (time) God created (energy) the heavens (space) and the earth (matter).

- God is **independent** of creation
- God **established** the law of cause and consequences
- God **preserves** the order of creation (all things consist)

Colossians 1:17. And He is **before** all things, and in Him **all things consist** (hold together). (NKJV)

2. GOD'S PROVIDENCE: God's **predetermined** plan and purpose for creation.

Jeremiah 29:11. "For I **know the plans** I have for you, "says the Lord. They are **plans for good** and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. (NLT)

Summary: "God's **sovereignty** is His absolute authority, power, and control over everything and His **providence** is how He uses His sovereignty to guard, guide and govern His creation to accomplish His plan and purposes."

3. God's Hand: Everything that happens in our lives is either **caused** or **allowed** by God to work out His own **perfect plans** and **purpose for us**. Nothing is **random** or comes **by chance**, it comes **on purpose**.

a) _____ the Hand of God at **work**.

Jeremiah 18:1. The Lord gave another message to Jeremiah. He said,² “Go down to the potter’s shop, and I will speak to you there.”³ So I did as he told me and found the potter working at his wheel.

⁴ But the jar he was making did not turn out as he had hoped, so he crushed it into a lump of clay again and started over. ⁵ Then the Lord gave me this message; ⁶ “O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay? As **the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand.** (NLT)

Romans 8:28. And we know **God causes** everything to **work together** for the **good** of those who **love God** and are **called** according to his **purpose** for them. (NLT)

Hebrews 13:5. Don’t love money; be satisfied with what you have. For **God has said**, “I will **never fail you**. I will never **abandon you**.”⁶ So **we can say with confidence**, “The Lord is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?” (NLT)

b) _____ yourself **under** the Hand of God

Isaiah 45:9. “What **sorrow awaits** those who **argue** with their Creator. Does a **clay pot argue** with its maker? Does the clay **dispute** with the one who shapes it, saying, “Stop, you’re doing it wrong?” Does the pot exclaim, “How clumsy can you be?” (NLT)

I Peter 5:6. Therefore **humble** yourselves under the **mighty hand** of God, that He may **exalt you in due (appointed) time.** (NKJV)

- Submit to the discipline of God
- God will exalt you
- Appointed time

c) _____ **from** the Hand of God (Obedience)

Joshua 1:8. **Study** this Book of Instruction **continually**. **Meditate** on it day and night so you will be sure to **obey** everything written in it. Only then will you **prosper** and **succeed** in all you do. (NLT)

- **Study** the laws of God (cause and consequences)
- **Meditate** on the laws of God (beliefs)
- **Obey** the laws of God (behavior)
- **Blessed** from the Hand of God (prosperity and success)

Luke 23:46. Then Jesus shouted, “Father, I **entrust my spirit** into **your hands!**” And with these words he breathed his last. (NLT)