

Weekly Devotions: GOD IS SOVEREIGN 18

The Sovereign Lord is our Abba, Father

In the whole of the OT, God is referred to as the 'Father' less than 7 times and only indirectly, while in the 4 gospels, Jesus referred to God as Father more than 70 times. The coming and death of the Son of God put our relationship with God on a whole new level. A key distinction between the Christian faith and other religions is that we are called to a relationship, a Father-child relationship, with God Most High.

The Sovereign God sees us as His children and He is concerned for our well-being. As our Father, He takes upon Himself to protect and care for us.

Read Matt 6: 25-34

Jesus told His disciples not to be anxious about life for their Father in heaven knew what they needed and would take care of them. Jesus said worry does not add to our span of life (v. 27) and God's children should be different from those without God. The latter seek the material things of the world but God's children should seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness (vv. 32-33).

Jesus is not saying we should not work hard to earn a living. He is also not saying that there is no need to plan for the future. He is saying we should not put our material needs as more important than our spiritual needs and we should not pursue material things at the expense of our spiritual life.

We can trust our heavenly Father to take care of our needs; His love for us is without measure and nothing is impossible to Him. It is also pointless to worry over things that may not happen and we should learn to live a day at a time (v. 34).

Questions to ponder

1. How is our heavenly Father different from our biological fathers and how does He care for you?
2. What are you most anxious about and how is this affecting you physically, emotionally and spiritually? What do you think our heavenly Father would be saying to you regarding this worry?
3. What worries did Jesus discourage His followers from (v. 25)? What assurance did Jesus give about our basic needs?
4. What does it mean for you to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness" (v. 33)?