

## God Is Sovereign and Man Is Responsible

"...His works were finished from the foundation of the world."  
Hebrews 4:3

God reveals in His Word, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will."<sup>1</sup> Again His Word says, "The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."<sup>2</sup>

These two seemingly irreconcilable truths are anchors in every believer's life. No one understands how both can be true, but all of Christ's followers should be grateful that both are true.

**The responsibility of man means** that you can decide to love God and be His obedient slave. God did not make you His robot; you are free to accept or reject His offer to become His.

**The sovereignty of God means you** can have a relationship with the Creator God of the universe and live with Him throughout eternity. Because of your depravity, without His taking the initiative and electing you, you would surely go to hell.

As an anonymous hymn writer stated it: "I sought the Lord, and afterwards I knew, He moved my soul to seek Him seeking me. It was not I that sought Thee Savior true; I was sought of Thee."

<sup>1</sup> Ephesians 1:4-5 <sup>2</sup> II Peter 3:9