"Why is this happening to me?"—Living in Light of God's Sovereignty

- 1. Some introductory considerations:
 - A. God's sovereignty could include many things!

He could choose to be completely removed from people

He could choose to be completely removed from creation and all its events

- B. God's sovereignty <u>wrangles</u> in these a bit: essentially within Himself, He has given boundaries for our benefit.
- C. His sovereignty shows us how He uses His knowledge.
- D. The hope for us is this: We are not left <u>wondering</u> how and why He administers the way He does. Instead, He tells us in the Bible.

2. Definition of sovereignty:

All things that come to pass are under God's control somehow whether determined or allowed by Him. Consequently, He has a purpose in how He governs all things that happen in my life.

3. In His sovereignty, God has a <u>purpose</u> or goal for everything He accomplishes.

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will—Ephesians 1:11

- 4. 2 things God is accomplishing within people through His sovereignty:
 - 1) our good works

Eph 2:1ºFor we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

2) our conformity to Christ.

Rom 8:28-29: ²⁸And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

4. So, "Why is this happening to me?"

We can answer this question with 2 further questions:

- 1) "What good works can I do?"
- 2) "How can this make me more like Christ?"

