

Divine Providence

The care, preservation, and government exercised over all the earth and its inhabitants.

There are two extremes in religious views -

1. A miracle

2. Doesn't exist

It can't be a miracle because miracles have ceased

1Co 13:8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. (9) For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; (10) but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

Jas 1:25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.

We have the perfect, God's word, but the power to perform miracles was also given only by the apostle's hands.

Act 8:18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money,

Act 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.

God uses his natural laws to accomplish His ends.

Est 4:13 Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not imagine that you in the king's palace can escape any more than all the Jews. (14) "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?"

Then you may ask whether God
intervenes in the lives of saints
today?

“Be not dismayed what e’re betide,
God will take care of you.”

1Pe 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on
him because he cares for you.

Mat 6:26 "Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?
(27) "And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to his life's span? (28) "And why are you anxious about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,

(29) yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory did not clothe himself like one of these.

(30) "But if God so arrays the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more do so for you, O men of little faith? (31) "Do not be anxious then, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' (32) "For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

“Does Jesus care when my heart is
pained?”

Our heavenly Father knows
everything.

Mat 10:29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. (30) "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. (31) "Therefore do not fear; you are of more value than many sparrows. (32) "Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. (33) "But whoever shall deny Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.

Paul knew how God worked in his life!

Php 1:12 Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, (13) so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else, (14) and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.

Sometimes we forget that our earthly possessions were given to us by God. Acts 14:15 ... We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you in order that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, WHO MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM.

(16) "And in the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; (17) and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness."

2Co 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; (9) as it is written, "HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR, HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ABIDES FOREVER." (10) Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness; (11) you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.

How do we influence these
decisions by God?

Paul knew it was by prayer!

Rom 1:9 For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you, (10) always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you.

Col 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; (3) praying at the same time for us as well, that God may open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; (4) in order that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

Rom 8:26 And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; (27) and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (28) And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose

We must consider God's providence every day of
our lives

Jas 4:13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow, we shall go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." (14) Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. (15) Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that."

James goes on to tell us the end of not trusting in God's divine providence.

Jas 4:16 But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.

weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; (20) yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, (21) and being fully assured that what He had promised, He was able also to perform. (22) Therefore also IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS

1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves,
therefore, under the mighty hand
of God, that He may exalt you at
the proper time, (7) casting all
your anxiety upon Him, because He
cares for you.

God wishes to use us to make known His wisdom, however, we must trust Him.

Eph 3:8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, (9) and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things; (10) in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

Do you trust Him this day?

Will you do what He says?

Mat 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Gal 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

(27) For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Would you become a son of God today?