

God Cares For Us Romans 8:28-39

Providence

Used once in Scripture

Acts 24:2 - Felix - forethought - used to "butter up" or brag on Felix regarding his relationship to the Jews.

Provision in **Romans 13:14** is from same Greek word and carries the idea of preparation.

This idea of forethought and interest is also involved in word "*cares*" in **1Peter 5:7**

Same idea in story of good Samaritan **Luke 10:34-35**

Misunderstanding & ignorance regarding God's provision or providence has encouraged much false teaching

One extreme is the direct operation of the Holy Spirit

Another is the gloom, doom, depression & anxiety we feel

God's Care For Us Today Is Not Miraculous

A miracle is an act of God superseding or suspending a natural law

A miracle was a visible sign which showed all men that a super-human power was at work

Example: feeding 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fishes **John 6:8-14**

Their purpose was to confirm the word **Mark 16:17-20; John 20:30-31**

When word completed & confirmed miracles ceased **1Corinthians 13:8-13**

Providence differs from a miracle in that its ends are brought about by means of established laws of God through ordinary channels

God's providence does not eliminate our having to follow His word in every detail **Matthew 7:21**

The Word of God Is ... **Romans 1:16; Acts 20:32**

It does not eliminate free moral agency of man

God works with two kinds of wills: "willing wills" and "opposing wills" (rebellious wills)

God overrules the evil intent of those who persecute us and cause it to bring ultimate good (if not in this life then in the one to come)

Note examples of Joseph and brothers - **Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28**

God can through his providence ultimately overrule bad for our good

Scriptures Promise And Confirm His Care

Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:17; Psalms 147:8-9; Acts 17:28; Matthew 10:29; Luke 12:7; 1Peter 3:12

Joseph - **Genesis 39:21; Genesis 45:5**

Esther - **Esther 4:14**

God rules in the kingdoms of men - **Daniel 4:25; Revelation 1:5; Romans 13:1**

Is the election of an ungodly, unprincipled man according to God's plan - with God's approval?

If so, is voting against him fighting against God? No, I am simply doing what I can to fight against evil.

God doesn't "target" certain individuals & cause to be elected

He does use those in power to accomplish his aims and purposes

Prayer Shows Our Faith In His Care

Prayer not answered through miracles but providence - working through established laws and ordinary channels

We pray for opportunities to preach - **Colossians 4:3; 1Corinthians 16:9; 2Corinthians 2:12**

We pray for daily food **Matthew 6:11**

We labor according to God's will - **Ephesians 4:28**

We pray for the sick then do what we can for them - God heals through providence in accordance with His will - **James 5:14-15**

We pray "*lead us not into temptation*" **Matthew 6:13**

So, we watch and pray **Matthew 26:41**

God provides a way to escape **1Corinthians 10:13** - yet we must "*take heed*" and "*flee*" (context)
We need to have faith that the Lord is at hand and cares for us - **1Peter 5:7; 1John 5:14-15**

God Cares

The teaching in **Matthew 6:24-34** is a promise of the divine providence of God

Jesus is not teaching laziness we are to work then leave the rest to God

Seek kingdom first and God will provide material needs **Matthew 6:33**

Faith in God's providential care will take the worry out of our lives - **Romans 4:21; Psalms 37:25**

However, to receive eternal blessings we must work in accordance to his will **Matthew 7:21**

With God's Care, nothing can stop us.

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