



The Day God Regretted

Genesis 5:1-6:8

Pastor John Sloan

Introduction: It's early in humanity's history. And ethically, mankind has spiraled out of control. Evil is everywhere. In fact, the text says that when the Lord saw how great man's wickedness had become, He was grieved to His heart, and sorry that He had made man. But how can that be? Was God sorry because He felt like He had made a mistake? Was it because something happened that He couldn't control?

How does a sovereign God grieve?

Three Views

01.

02.

03.

IN THE BEGINNING ... GRACE
[A Study through the First Half of Genesis]



1. What are we referring to when we talk about “God’s sovereign will”? (see Eph. 1:11, Ps. 115:3, Is. 46:9-10)?
2. Why is it a challenge to reconcile God’s sovereignty with His divine affections?
3. Read Psalm 50:21. What are some ways that God is wholly different than we (the list is endless so there’s plenty to consider!)?
4. How can we fairly say that God knows what it’s like to hurt?
5. What comfort is there in knowing that God grieves with us when we experience pain?
6. What are some typical responses that people offer to those who are suffering? How would you counsel someone in light of today’s message?

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1. "Perhaps the most difficult biblical dilemma for those of us who affirm the sovereignty of God is the problem of how to make sense of the various divine affections spoken of in Scripture."
2. THREE VIEWS
3. **01. God is not emotional; all language in Scripture ascribing emotive behavior to God should be regarded as strictly figurative.**
4. "God is opposed to sin and will express his opposition as if he felt angry, but it will be in the most calm manner, and not as the result of passion."
- Albert Barnes
5. **02. God is unguardedly emotional; He has made Himself vulnerable by setting aside His divine sovereignty.**
6. "You thought I was just like you, I will reprove you and state the case before your eyes." - Psalm 50:21
7. **03. God truly hurts; He actually grieves; He experiences real emotions, though infinitely different than ours.**
8. "The agony of each is different, yet equally real. And the resulting understanding of human grief is as much a reality for God the Father and God the Holy Spirit as it is for God the Son. The trinity is touched with the feeling of our infirmities." - Donald Macleod

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