

Job's Faith

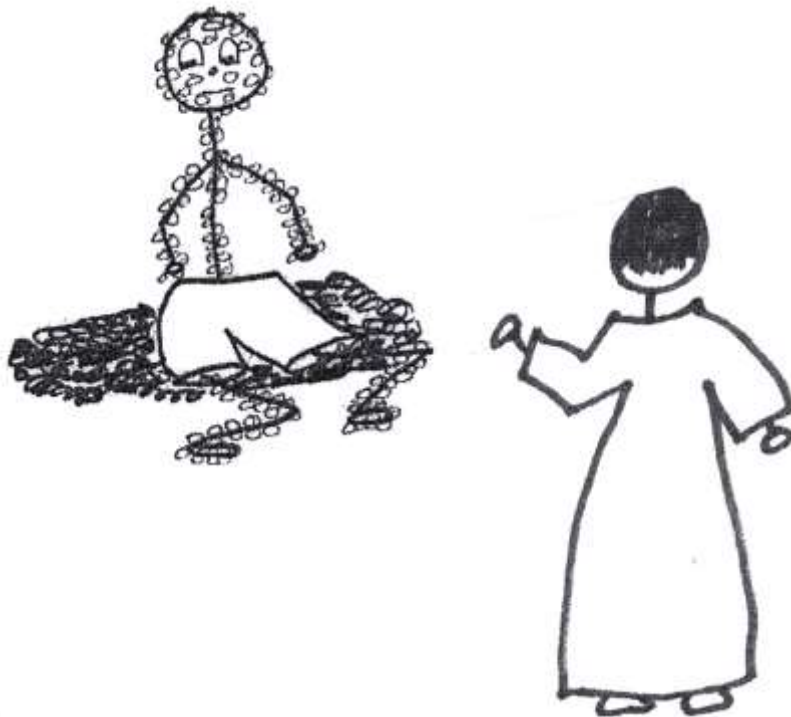
Part 6

God's Response to Job

Revised 10-10-2013

Elihu talking to Job: Job, I tell you this: *God's wisdom is superior!* He is omniscient which means He knows everything! There is no way, even in the smallest matter, that you have more wisdom than *God!* Believe it Job, even in the middle of all of your pain and suffering, *God's wisdom is doing what is best for you!* God never treats anyone unfairly! God is sovereign and He is our most gracious Ruler. His integrity is awesome and that includes His omniscience!*

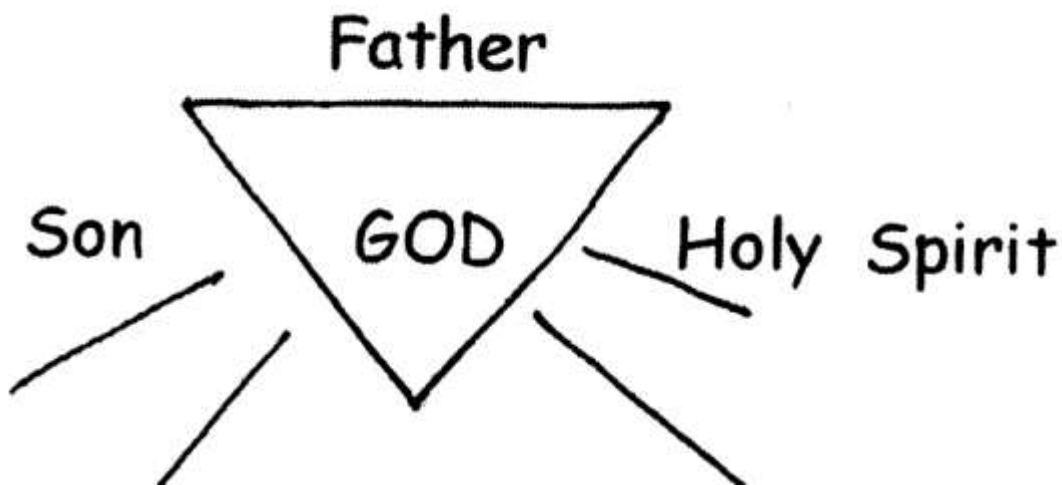
*Go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *Our God Is An Awesome God.*



Job 37:24, Therefore men fear Him [respect His sovereignty]; He does not regard any who are wise of heart [in their own understanding and conceit].

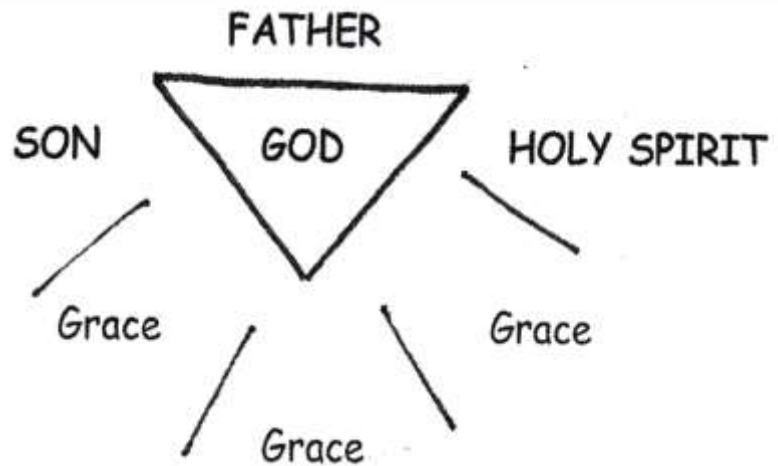
Next scene: God talking to Job. God has been very patient and now He gets right to the point. He communicates only what is required and at the right time! Now that is wisdom! While you are reading God's response to Job, put in your name along with Job's. Each of us has reacted in some suffering like Job reacted to his sufferings.

God: Job 38:2, **Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?** Message Bible: *Why do you confuse the issue? Why do you talk without knowing what you're talking about?* Job, you don't have infinite knowledge like I do. I have seen the past, present, and future since eternity past. Job, you haven't. I see the overall picture of your life. This includes what My permissive will allows in the way of suffering!



God: Job 38:3, **Now gird up your loins like a man, and I will ask you, and you instruct Me!** Message Bible: Pull yourself together, Job! Up on your feet! Stand tall! I have some questions for you, and I want some straight answers.

God: Where were you, Job, when I created the heavens, the stars, the planets, including the earth? Can you cause day and night? Where were you when I created the angels, mankind, plants and animals? Are you able to regulate the weather? Can you provide for the birds of the air and all the other wild animals? Job, do you have the power to do those things?



Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

God: Job, are you serious in questioning My sovereignty and My authority? You must be kidding! I always have and always will take care of all creation. My sovereign will always acts according to My divine integrity, which is My righteousness and justice. They can't be separated. Therefore, I always act using divine, perfect good with infinite strength.

Job, you are looking at the creatures view instead of the Creator's view, My view. Your deliverance will come first in your mind with My word, My thinking. Remember, even in your worst suffering I am with you. I will see you through it. My grace and power will get you through it. At the perfect time I will deliver you from your sufferings. Have faith in that! Have faith in your Creator then your mental attitude will be relaxed!

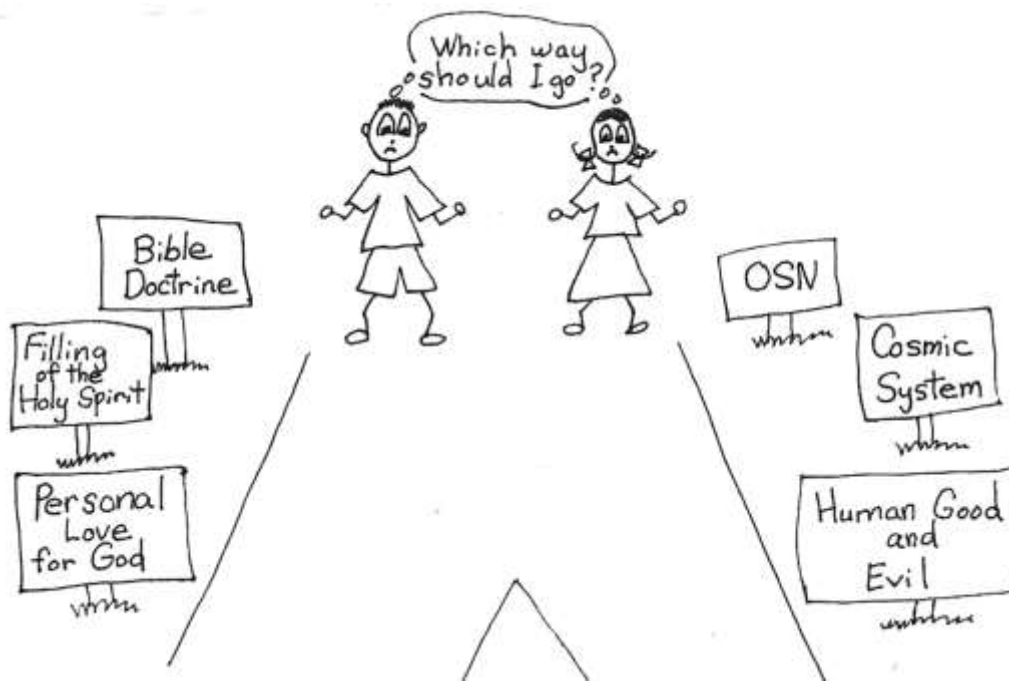


In the chain of command, God is sovereign. He is the Top Authority! He has given authority to others so there wouldn't be chaos in the world. A few of the people who have authority over us are: parents, teachers, coaches and policemen. If we try to go against their authority, we suffer consequences! We've all experienced that! Not fun! It is actually comforting to know that these people are trying their best to guide us on the right track of life. If they aren't doing their jobs correctly, God takes over. His sovereignty or authority is soooo comforting. God's authority is perfect!



Revelation 4:11 Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things and because of Your will they existed, and were created.

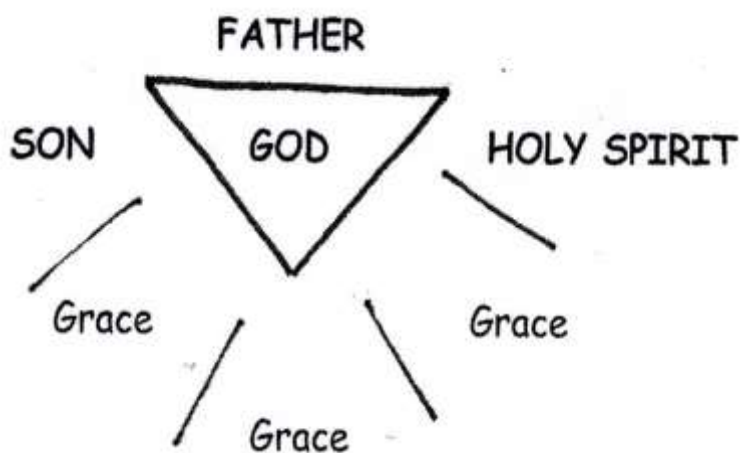
The sovereign will of God and the free will of man coexist or exist together. God never forces us to choose one way or another. He knew in eternity past all the choices we would make - good and bad. Once we have made a choice, He may permit it, or He may prevent it. God decides what is best for us and He directs that to happen. In fact, He ordered or decreed it to happen in eternity past. As the Sovereign over all things, God has the right to use His almighty power to do what He ordered in eternity past. Whatever His will does in human history is perfectly righteous and just. We are safe in God's power and will! Our God is an awesome God.



Isaiah 46:10-11 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, "My purpose [divine decree] will be established and I will accomplish all My good pleasure; calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned *it*, surely I will do it.

God is so amazing the way He planned human history. Let's look at what He did with the ostrich. The ostrich is a beautiful bird, can run faster than a horse, can't fly, isn't very smart, and is self-centered. It doesn't take good care of its eggs and therefore doesn't look after its babies. It just plops the eggs on the sand in the hot sun. Our perfect Creator created the ostrich with that type of nature, and then the Creator takes care that the eggs hatch in the sandy and sunny environment. He makes up for the imperfections of the ostrich! Amazing grace! We are not to focus on the flawed behavior of the creature, but on the perfect behavior of God, the Creator.

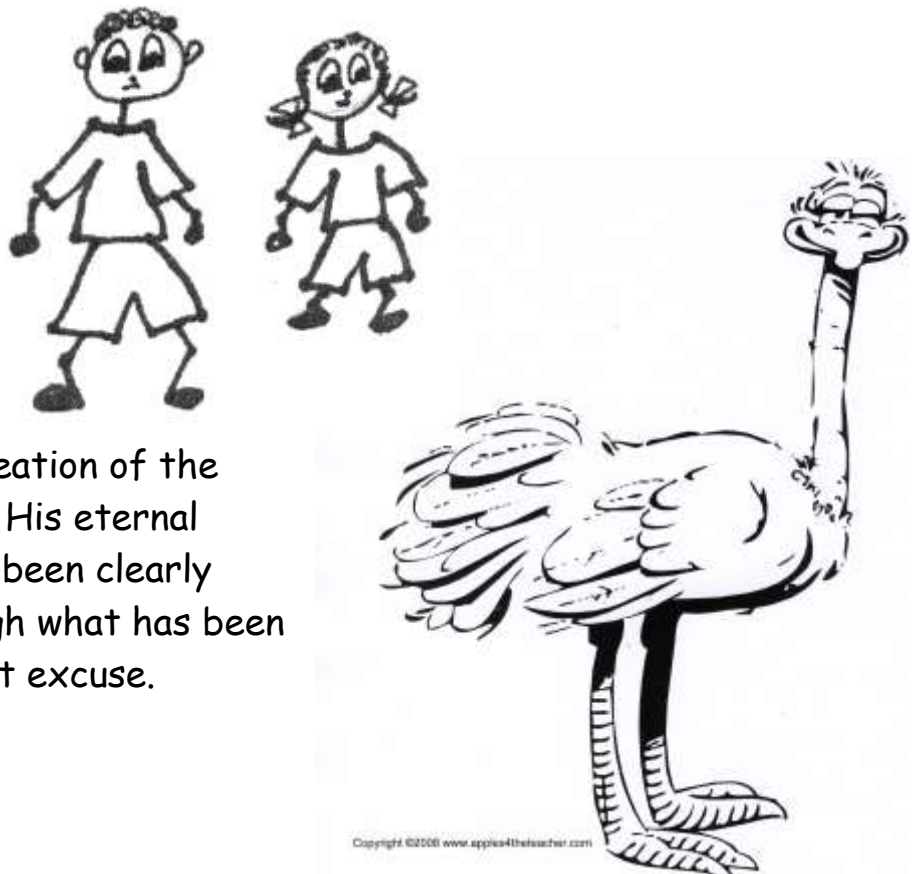
Read Job 30:13-18.



The ostrich has an excuse to be unwise; we don't. God has given us everything we need to grow in His grace and wisdom. He has given us the filling of the Holy Spirit, His predesigned plan, and His word - the Bible. Yet, like the ostrich, there are times we are very self-centered. We can appear to be wise. However, if we are not using God's thinking, His word, then we are not wise. We are self-centered instead of God-centered. We have no excuses and God is not fooled!** He knows what is going on in our minds! God wants us to keep our eyes on the Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator.

*Go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *The Predesigned Plan of God*.

** Read *No Excuses*.



Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

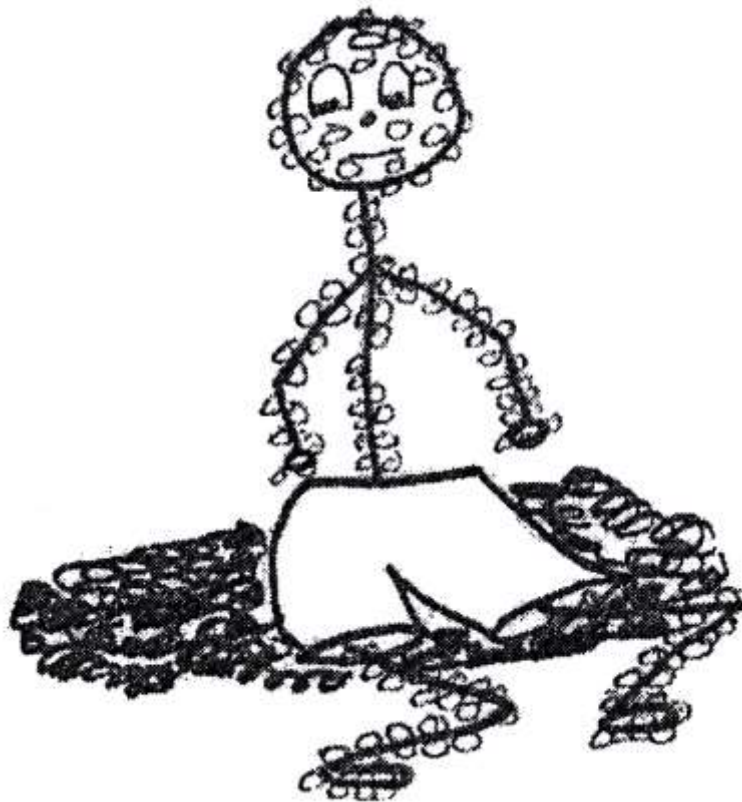
Back to the conversation between God and Job.

God: Job 40:1-2 Then the LORD said to Job, "Will the faultfinder contend [argue] with the Almighty? Let him who reproves [finds fault with] God answer it."

Job: Job 40:3-5 Then Job answered the LORD and said, "Behold, I am insignificant; what can I reply to You? I lay my hand on my mouth. Once I have spoken, and I will not answer; even twice, and I will add nothing more."

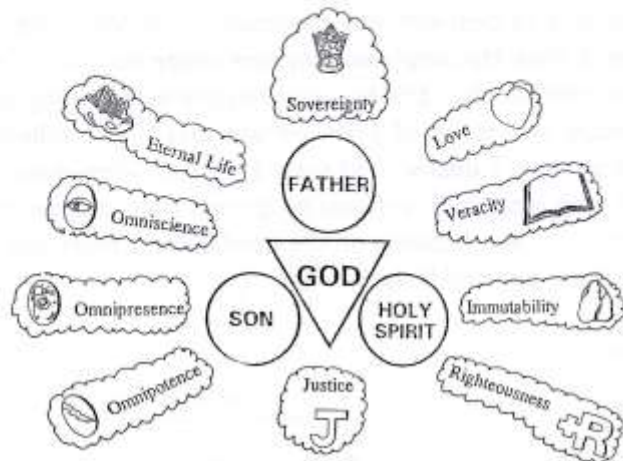


Job is still not repenting, or changing his mind from his viewpoint to God's viewpoint. All he is saying is that he is insignificant. He thinks God doesn't understand him. Wow! Job, one of the greatest believers in human history, lost sight of the promises of God. He didn't accept the truth that God would deliver him. God made a plan for Job's life in eternity past and created Job. God knows and understands Job! God made a plan for our lives in eternity past and created us. God understands us! If Job had repented, God would have stopped questioning him.



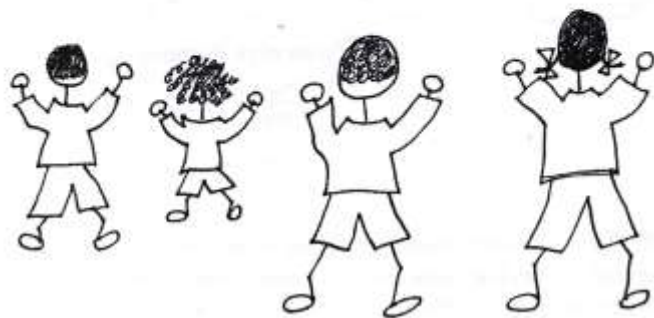
How often are we so stubborn that we refuse to repent or change our minds for the better? This even happens when we've been shown where we were wrong? Why do we cling to the slightest thread of hope that our wrong actions are justified? Life would be so much easier if we just focused on learning, believing and using more of God's thinking. Where's your focus? Focus on the Creator not on the flawed creatures!

God's Divine Nature



Our God is an awesome God!

Psalm 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; grace and truth go before You.



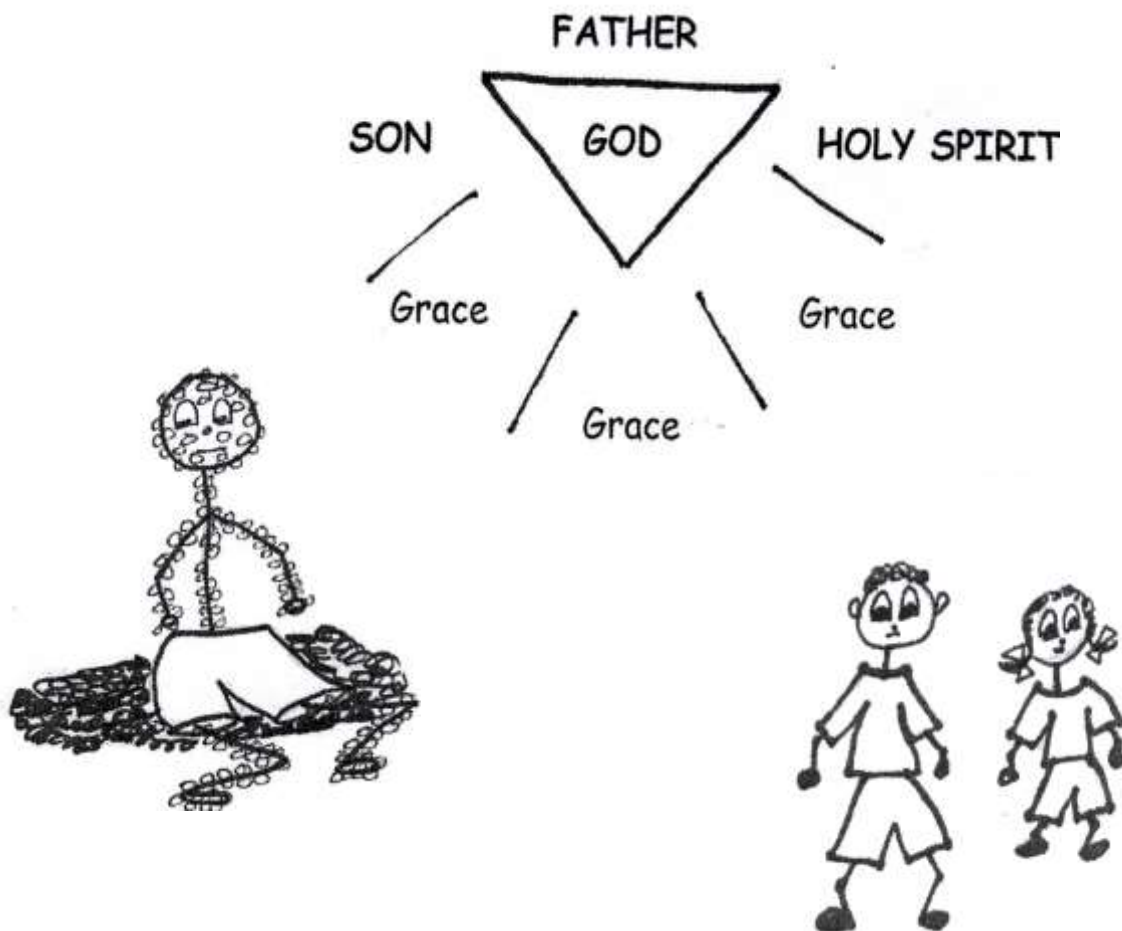
Points to Remember

1. Elihu tells Job that there is no way he is wiser than God. God has perfect integrity and that includes wisdom or omniscience.
2. God communicates to Job only what is required and at the right time.
3. God tells Job that he doesn't have infinite knowledge.
4. God asks Job where he was when God created everything. He asks Job if he had the power to create like God created.
5. God asks Job if he is seriously questioning His authority.
6. In the chain of command, God is the top Authority. He is sovereign.
7. The sovereign will of God and the free will of man coexist, or exist together.
8. We are not to focus on the flawed behavior of the creature but on the perfect behavior of God, the Creator.
9. God has given us everything we need to grow in His grace and wisdom.
10. Job still doesn't repent or change his mind from his viewpoint to God's viewpoint.
11. Many times we are stubborn and don't change our viewpoint to God's viewpoint.



Questions for Discussion

1. What does Elihu try to tell Job?
2. What does God tell Job?
3. Who has authority over all creation?
4. Why is God the perfect Sovereign Ruler?
5. How are God's sovereign will and man's free will able to coexist?
6. What happens when we concentrate on the flawed behavior of creatures?
7. On whose behavior are we to concentrate?
8. What does God give us so we can grow in His grace and wisdom?
9. What keeps us from growing in God's grace and wisdom?

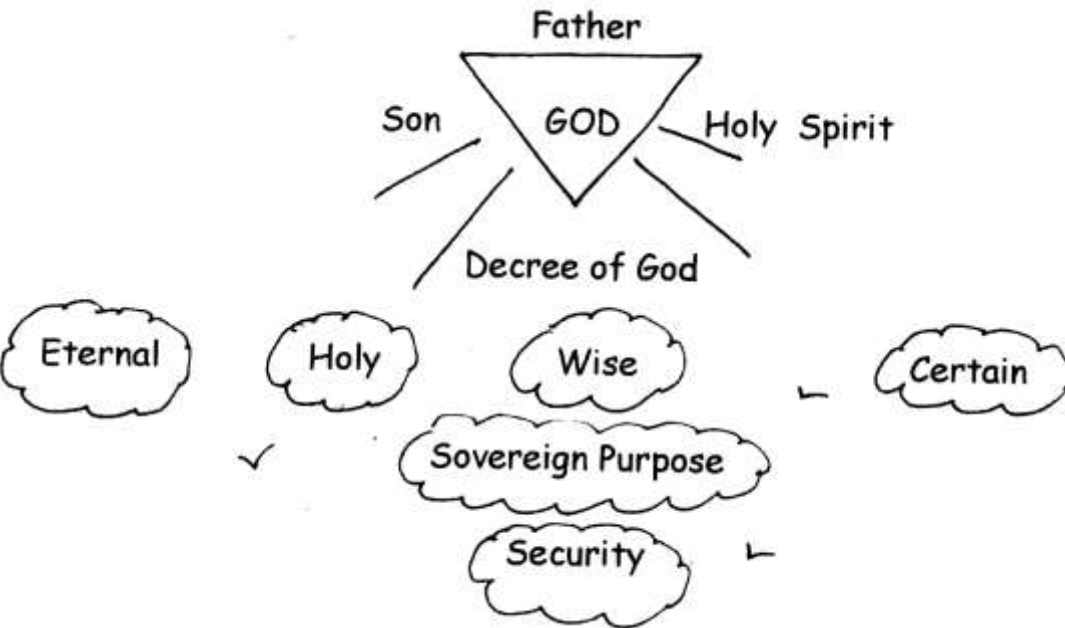




RaisingOurKids.com

The *Ostrich* is one of the few birds that cannot fly. Color: legs and neck brownish tan, body darker, white feathers in wings and tail.

For the teacher*:



* **The decree of God:** His eternal (always existed), holy (perfect integrity), wise (the application of omniscience to creation), and sovereign purpose, comprehending simultaneously (knowing at the same time) all things that ever were or will be in their causes, conditions (status), successions (interaction with others that leads to certain decisions), relations, and determining the certainty of their future [Heb 11:1]. God's will and the free will of His

creatures co-exist in this decree such that the free will of man is never violated, but rather permitted even when that free will is against the will of God. (Taken from "definitions" on Eusebeia Bible Church's website.)

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6-18-2010

References: Eusebeia Bible Church

www.eusebeia.org

Read Job 38 and 39.

Lessons: 6-8,13-2010