

Speaker: Associate Pastor Timothy Ong

Title : Providence or Prayer

Text : Proverbs 16:9, Acts 16:6-10

Introduction

The doctrine of divine providence can be succinctly summarized this way: "God in eternity past, in the counsel of His own will, ordained everything that will happen; yet in no sense is God the author of sin; nor is human responsibility removed." The primary means by which God accomplishes His will is through secondary causes (e.g., laws of nature, human choice). In other words, God works indirectly through these secondary causes to accomplish His will.

Body:

1. The All Encompassing Divine Providence of God

- i. It is beyond our ability to understand its 'mechanism'.
- ii. It helps us to face all situations with contentment and confidence.
- iii. It helps us to submit to the development of our character.
- iv. It teaches us to wait on Him in humility and patience for God's vindication.
- v. It keeps depression away.

2. Divine Providence Inspires Prayer

- i. Positively it gives us confidence to pray.
- ii. Negatively it causes us to 'pray carefully'.
- iii. It forces us to go beyond the mundane of prayer.
- iv. It encourages praise and prayer in the face of adversity.
- v. We learn to pray the prayers of submission to God's will.

Conclusion:

Providence is about God.

It is not about fate.

It is not about faith.

It is not about getting everything I want because I have everything mapped out.

Providence is about God. God is no.1.

And, it is about God's will for man and for you.