

Definition - God’s absolute right to govern all things as He chooses, without any limitations imposed by circumstances or human choices. (Revell Bible Dictionary)

Isaiah 45:9,12 (NLT) - What sorrow awaits those who argue with their Creator. Does a clay pot argue with its maker? Does the clay dispute with the one who shapes it, saying, ‘Stop, you’re doing it wrong!’ Does the pot exclaim, ‘How clumsy can you be?’¹² “I am the one who made the earth and created people to live on it. With my hands I stretched out the heavens. All the stars are at my command.”

Questions:

- ◆ What does it mean?
- ◆ Why does it matter to me?

Reply:

- ◆ I am perfectly loved and cared for by a perfectly loving and caring Father.

Response:

- ◆ Not necessarily ‘explanation’, but rather ‘worship’.

Study Guide

1. Let’s start with a concept that is recognizable to all of us: control. What are your thoughts as to your personal approach to ‘control’? In your life, your relationships, your future . . . and any other topics you might choose.
2. Let’s get right back to the Bible, before we get too far into personal opinions regarding ‘control’. Read the following passages and see if they help with forming and shaping your perspectives.
 - Isaiah 9:9-19
 - Romans 9:19-21
 - Psalm 115:3
 - Matthew 10:29-31
3. A large part of our series “Foundations for Life” will have to do with our responses. This shouldn’t be a surprise as it is typical of the Lord in His dealings with human beings. How do you sense God working in you regarding His sovereignty and your sense or need to control life?
4. Take some time to ponder, pray and think about where you stand in releasing control to your Heavenly Father. Ask Him to give you the courage, wisdom and trust to ‘hand over’ your life and its circumstances.