

# COSTLY GRACE SERIES

It All How You Look At It

Revelation 4







Worldwide Headquarters

Newport Avenue  
1071





*POSTMODERNISM*



THE MIGHTIEST AMONG THE BIRDS IS  
THE EAGLE, THE MIGHTIEST AMONG  
DOMESTIC ANIMALS IS THE OX, THE  
MIGHTIEST AMONG THE WILD  
ANIMALS IS THE LION, THE  
MIGHTIEST OF THEM ALL IS MAN;  
AND GOD HAS TAKEN ALL THESE  
AND SECURED THEM TO HIS THRONE.  
RABBI ABBIHU



Subjective Reality?

# POSTMODERNISM

All truth is relative.\*

\*(Except this statement.)

**You encounter, at its  
core, a subjective  
Reality, one based on  
meaning and value  
reflective of your own  
Self, not an objective  
universe, cold, particle-  
based and indifferent as  
science projects.**

**-Thomas Daniel Nehrer,  
The Illusion of "Truth":  
The Real Jesus Behind the  
Grand Myth**



...MANY TODAY WOULD NOT CARE WHETHER THEY LIVE  
WITH OR AGAINST THE GRAIN OF REALITY. THEY WANT  
WHAT THEY WANT, AND THE FACT THAT THEY WANT IT IS  
A SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION FOR WANTING IT.

ARGUMENTS ABOUT THEIR DESIRES FIT WITH A MORE  
ENCOMPASSING ACCOUNT OF REALITY—HOW THEY  
RELATE TO “HUMAN NATURE,” FOR INSTANCE—ARE  
SIMPLY BESIDE THE POINT

MIROSLAV VOLF



**Absolutely Dependent  
On Revelation!**



Peace is not to be  
purchased by the  
**sacrifice** of truth.

John Calvin



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**THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE OF GOD  
WHICH WAS GIVEN ALONG WITH THE  
EXISTENCE AND THE ESSENCE OF THE  
WORLD. WE OURSELVES CANNOT SAY:  
GOD IS IN THE WORLD HERE OR HE IS  
THERE. BUT GOD HIMSELF IS HE WHO, IN  
THE WORLD, GIVES HIMSELF TO OUR  
KNOWLEDGE, ACCORDING AS HE PLEASES.  
KARL BARTH**



# The Absolute Sovereign God



THERE IS NOT ONE  
PIECE OF COSMIC  
DUST THAT IS  
OUTSIDE THE SCOPE  
OF GOD'S SOVEREIGN  
PROVIDENCE.

– *R.C. Sproul*



“No doctrine in the whole Word of God has more excited the hatred of mankind than the truth of the absolute sovereignty of God.

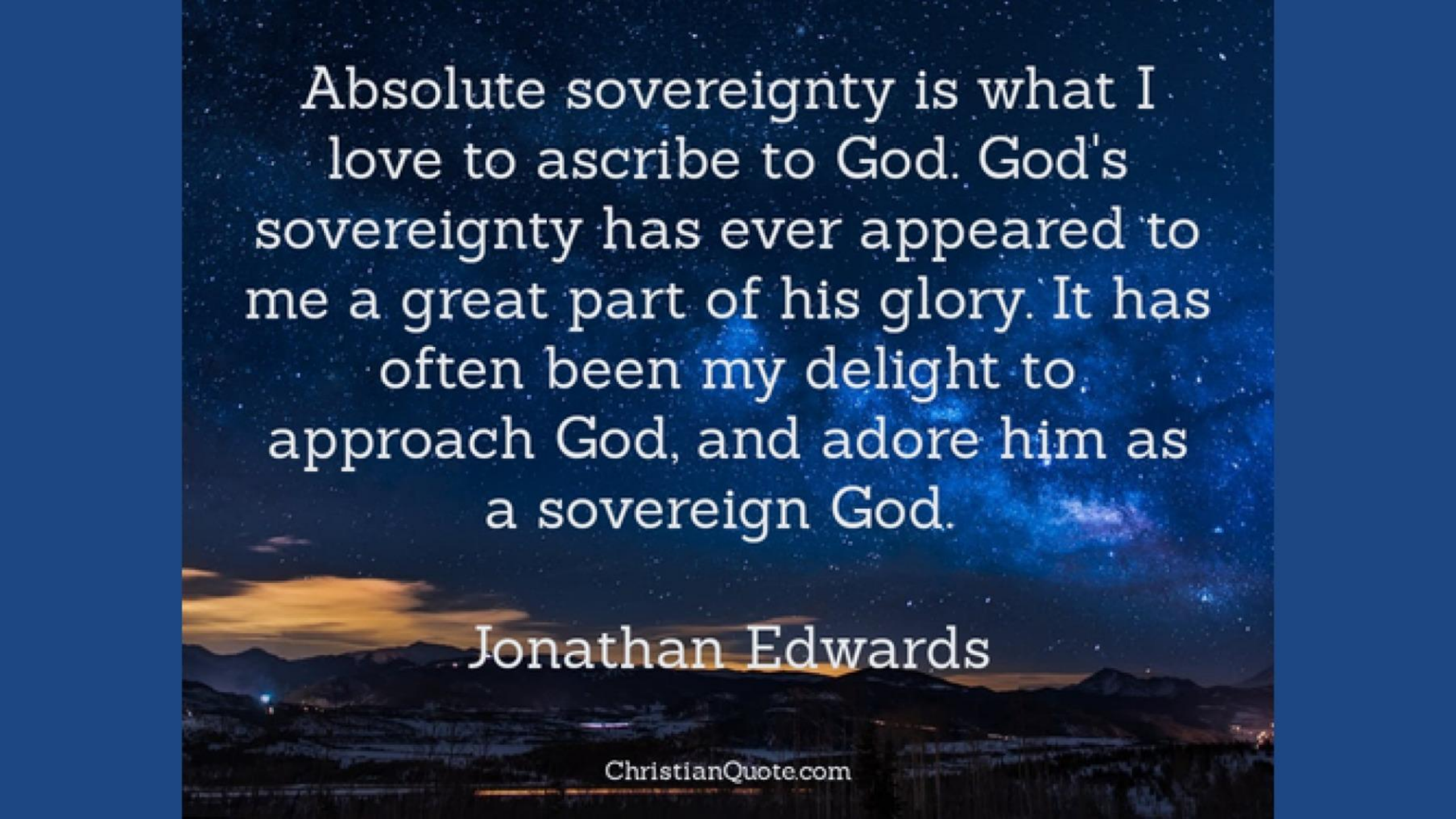
—C. H. Spurgeon





Revelation Leads To  
Worship!

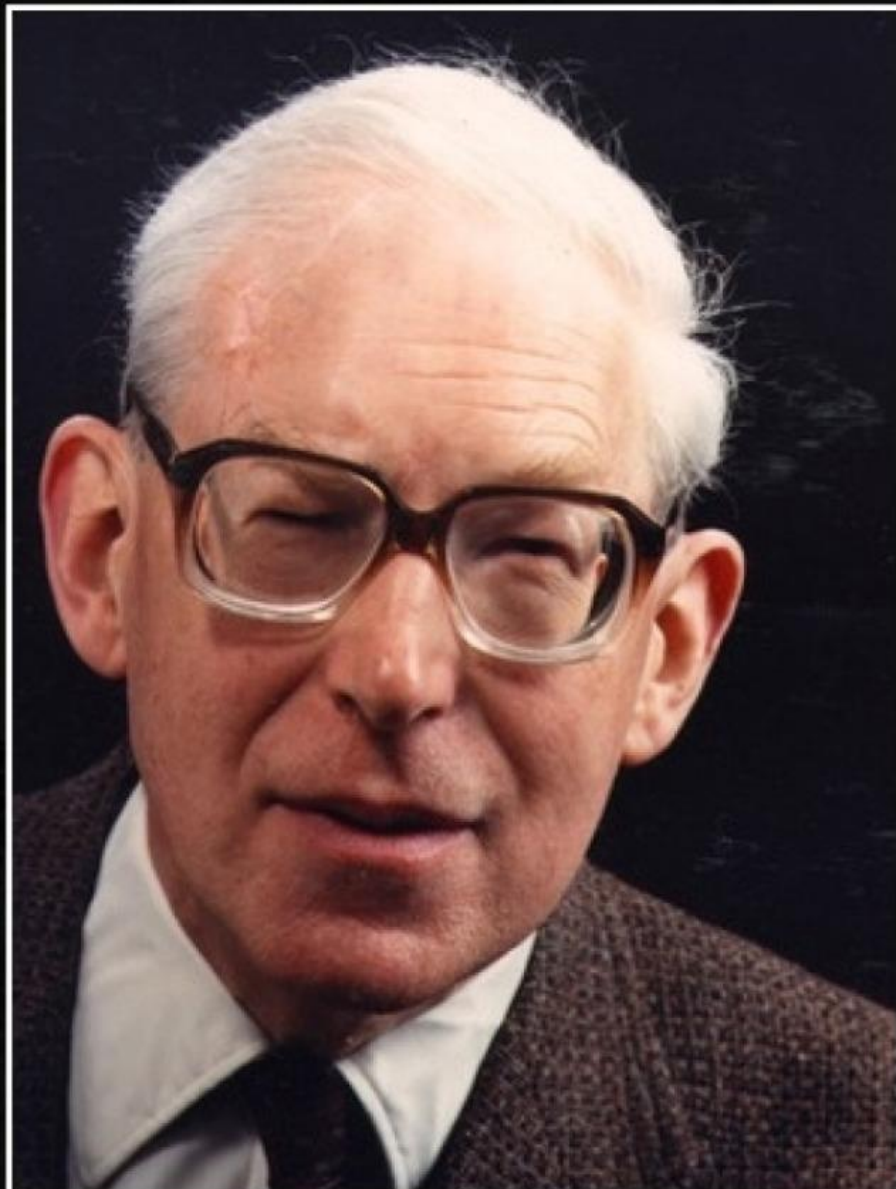




Absolute sovereignty is what I  
love to ascribe to God. God's  
sovereignty has ever appeared to  
me a great part of his glory. It has  
often been my delight to  
approach God, and adore him as  
a sovereign God.

Jonathan Edwards





Men treat God's sovereignty as a  
theme for controversy, but in  
Scripture it is matter for worship.

— *J. I. Packer* —

AZ QUOTES



A New Way To Look At  
Everything



John's vision encourages Christians in Roman Asia that the worship in the imperial cult is merely a farce, a pale imitation of the true worship in the heavenly court. And as late first-century Christians gained courage to declare that the emperor had no clothes, we must declare the same for the idols of our generation



Caesar did not create (4:11) and is not eternal (4:8), nor did he redeem us by his blood (5:9); he had no control over ultimate hope.

Craig Keener



If God's grandeur dwarfs the emperor's majesty, it also challenges in a different way the numbing triteness of modern Western culture. God's greatness summons our attention: Who are we to be overwhelmed by the mortal emperor or our present trials?



That God is Lord of history and has everything under control helps us view everything else in life the way we should. Praise puts persecution, poverty, and plagues into perspective; God is sovereignly bringing about his purposes, and this world's pains are merely the birth pangs of a new world (Rev. 21–22).

Craig Keener



Really, if you'd just  
jump in, you would  
become so much more  
relevant to us...

