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## God’s Sovereignty

**1 Chronicles 29:10-16 (NLT)** - Then David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly: “O LORD, the God of our ancestor Israel, may you be praised forever and ever! <sup>11</sup>Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O LORD, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. <sup>12</sup>Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength. <sup>13</sup>O our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name! <sup>14</sup>But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us! <sup>15</sup>We are here for only a moment, visitors and strangers in the land as our ancestors were before us. Our days on earth are like a passing shadow, gone so soon without a trace. <sup>16</sup>O LORD our God, even this material we have gathered to build a Temple to honor your holy name comes from you! It all belongs to you.”

As the source of all creation, God’s \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ transcend all of creation.

## Power by Permission

**Genesis 1:26-28 (NLT)** - Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.” <sup>27</sup>So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

All power and authority we have are by \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Fall and Its Impact

**Genesis 3:1-13 (NLT)** - The serpent was clever, more clever than any wild animal GOD had made. He spoke to the Woman: “Do I understand that God told you not to eat from any tree in the garden?” <sup>2-3</sup>The Woman said to the serpent, “Not at all. We can eat from the trees in the garden. It’s only about the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, ‘Don’t eat from it; don’t even touch it or you’ll die.’” <sup>4-5</sup>The serpent told the Woman, “You won’t die. God knows that the moment you eat from that tree, you’ll see what’s really going on. You’ll be just like God, knowing everything, ranging all the way from good to evil.” <sup>6</sup>When the Woman saw that the tree looked like good eating and realized what she would get out of it—she’d know everything!—she took and ate the fruit and then gave some to her husband, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Immediately the two of them did “see what’s really going on”—saw themselves naked! They sewed fig leaves together as makeshift clothes for themselves. <sup>8</sup>When they heard the sound of GOD strolling in the garden in the evening breeze, the Man and his Wife hid in the trees of the garden, hid from GOD. <sup>9</sup>GOD called to the Man: “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>He said, “I heard you in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked. And I hid.” <sup>11</sup>GOD said, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from that tree I told you not to eat from?” <sup>12</sup>The Man said, “The Woman you gave me as a companion, she gave me fruit from the tree, and, yes, I ate it.” GOD said to the Woman, “What is this that you’ve done?” <sup>13</sup>“The serpent seduced me,” she said, “and I ate.”

All people belong to a \_\_\_\_\_ ruled by a \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Return to the King

**Romans 6:12-14 (NLT)** - Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. <sup>13</sup>Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. <sup>14</sup>Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God’s grace.

The most important decision we will make with our lives is not what we do, who we marry, or anything else.

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## STUDY GUIDE

1. We spoke extensively about the foundations of the Kingdom of God this last Sunday. Referring back to your notes, what is the most challenging part of that conversation for you?
2. One of the ideas that seems to be the hardest for people to accept is that we don’t get to do our own thing but rather that we are ruled by with one king or another. God, the source of everything good, or the enemy who seeks only to destroy.
3. Take a moment to reread Romans 6:12-14. As you read that, what stands out to you? What does it look like to “use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.” Is that easy for you? What areas of your life are hard to use that way? Why do you think that is challenging for us?
4. Take some time together to talk about what you think God’s purpose and plan for you is. How can your life bring glory to God?