

# **The Westminster Confession**

## **Chapter 3**

### *Of God's Eternal Decree*

1. God, from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of His own will, freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass: yet so, as thereby neither is God the author of sin, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures; nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established.

2. Although God knows whatsoever may or can come to pass upon all supposed conditions, yet hath He not decreed anything because He foresaw it as future, or as that which would come to pass upon such conditions.

**SERMON WORKSHEET**  
*Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2010 - PM service*  
**“What God Planned To Do”**

READINGS: 1)..... 2).....

TEXT: .....

**INTRODUCTION**

Our readings from Job showed that: *Tick right box*

- a) at the end of the book he received twice as much as he had before [ ]
  - b) he had been wrongly believing that God needed to prove Himself [ ]
- Ephesians ..... : ..... says that God's working out everything according to His will

**1 - HOW CHRISTIANS HAVE TRIED TO AVOID THIS**

Many Christians see a contradiction between W..... God is and what's happening  
Peretti's books tell us that it's prayers which win the V.....

'Open Theism' says that God takes R..... in creating and governing the world

These teachings have led to churches where:

- a) they sing songs that lift up God so that He can do His work [ ]
- b) they teach that any pain and misery is due to a lack of faith [ ]

Does God know what will happen before it happens? YES / NO ? *Cross out wrong one*

God foresees we will believe because he has chosen us -- Ephesians ..... : .....

God won't J..... Himself

**2 - HOW UNBELIEVERS REACT TO THIS**

They call natural disasters 'A..... of God'

If God doesn't change - James 1:17 - you have to change to get on S..... with Him

God's own Word tells us this, as we see in Proverbs ..... : .....

The unbeliever will only see this if he's brought low because of S.....

When the atheist professor's daughter was murdered he too asked '.....?'

Mark Talbot said it's often after he's had a messy fall or nasty accident that he feels:

- a) really angry with God for being disabled [ ]
- b) God's love and care intensely [ ]

Believers growing through their disabilities see that God H..... them through it

**3 - HOW WE ARE BLESSED THROUGH THIS**

The Westminster puts God where He really belongs as:

- a) the God can do all things [ ]
- b) the God who does all things [ ]

It is ..... % God's sovereignty and ..... % man's responsibility

Realising the answer's not in us O..... us up to what God really wants us to know

Are you wondering if this angel isn't actually a demon? YES / NO ?

The angel represents what God does when:

- a) good things happen to people [ ]
- b) bad things happen to people [ ]

Philippians ..... : ..... tells how God works in us to act according to his good purpose

Are you humbled by this teaching about what God planned to do? YES / NO ?