

## Providence

Keith Dixon  
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Gray

### Introduction

1. Romans 8:28
2. There is much confusion about providence and miracles in the religious world today, even in the church
3. This is really a beginning study of all that could be said about this subject, you need to study more about this on your own 2 Timothy 2:15
4. In this study we will find out what we mean when we say providence.

### II Discussion

1. Meaning
  - a. God's provisions for us all arrangements that God has made to see to it that His ultimate will is done. Matthew 6:10; Romans 8:28
  - b. God never operates in a way that is inconsistent with His nature or His word.
    - i. God is righteous Psalms 119:137; 145:17
    - ii. God is holy. Exodus 15:11; Isaiah 6:3
    - iii. God is good Psalm 25:8; Romans 2:4
    - iv. God cannot act out of harmony with these attributes
2. God never forces a man to do good nor evil
  - a. Man has a choice Joshua 24:15; Matthew 11:28-30; Revelation 22:17;
  - b. God has placed before man the good and the evil and he can choose which way he will serve. Deuteronomy 27:11-28:14; Romans 6:16-18
  - c. God can use the choices man makes to accomplish His purpose Isaiah 10:5-7; Genesis 50:20; Esther 4:10-17
  - d. The Lord opens doors we can choose to walk through them or not Revelation 3:8; 1 Corinthians 16:9
3. Providence is not a miracle
  - a. As seen above with Joseph (Genesis 50:20) and Esther (4:10-17).
    - i. There were events in their lives that brought them to certain places without any miracles being done.
  - b. A miracle is the setting aside of the laws of nature
  - c. Providence is God working within those laws
    - i. We must be careful here
    - ii. Actions that seem evil God means them as good Genesis 50:20
    - iii. The devil can work in the same way. 2 Thessalonians 2:8-11
  - d. God heals today!
    - i. It is divine healing, but it is not miraculous but according to natural laws.
    - ii. God has a healing team, doctors, nurses, hospitals, technicians, dieticians, blood donors, organ donors etc. and prayers of the saints Luke 5:31; Luke 18:1; Ephesians 6:18
  - e. The Holy Spirit operates
    - i. Not miraculous on saint or sinner but through the word Ephesians 6:17 Acts 20:32; John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-13; 2 Peter 1:3

4. Providence is not fate or chance or deism
  - a. Deism is God created and then left the world to itself
  - b. In the case of Job, Satan was allowed to do some things
  - c. Not all that happens then is from God wither good or bad.

### III Conclusion

1. God works in our lives today through providence
2. God works today in our lives through His word
3. Let His word sink deep into your heart to convict you of sin and then believe in the remedy for that sin.
4. Believe Repent confess and be baptized

Sources: Studies in 1 & 2 Thessalonians Philemon 1988 Denton lecture; The Providence of God Power lecture no date given