

Sermon Notes

Creation and Providence

[Creation]

1. God created everything in the beginning for his glory
2. God made human beings in his image with the potential for holiness and the possibility of sin

[Providence]

1. God sustains and governs everything in his foreknowledge to his praise

[Providence & Means]

2. Yet things occur according to "second causes"
3. God works with means, but doesn't have to

[Providence & Sin]

4. Even sin is governed by God's providence, and yet is not caused by him
5. God may allow temptation and sin within his ultimate purposes to bring us to him
6. Sometimes, God hardens the hearts of the ungodly, who in turn harden their own hearts

[Providence & Church]

7. God is sovereign, not *more* but *especially* over his church, working things together for its good.