

Family TableTalk

Conversation 01

Is God In Control?

read

Hebrews 1:1-4

think

When we read the Bible from cover-to-cover, we encounter a consistent truth about God that brings great peace and comfort, especially during times when we are filled with fear and anxiety. It is a truth known as *God's Providence*. In the first few verses of Hebrews, we read that God-in-the-flesh, Jesus Christ, is not only the Creator of the world and the One who purifies us from our sins through his sacrifice on the cross, but he "upholds the universe by the word of his power" (v. 3).

This is *God's providence*! After creating all things, God did not step away from his creation, leaving everything to chance, fate, luck, or fortune. Rather, he has remained continually involved with all things he has made, directing them as he wills. He is sustaining, renewing, preserving, ordering, and "holding together" (Col. 1:16&17) what he has made. What a joy it is to know that God is at work in the midst of all circumstances! Jesus tells us that he is so active in the world, that not a sparrow falls from the air apart from *God's providence*. He is so involved in all things that he knows how many hairs we have on our head (Matt. 10:29&30)!

Even evil actions and circumstances (Coronavirus) are doorways for God – who is not the author of evil- to work in our world, our families, and our lives to bring about great good, including a deeper knowledge of his love. Working to understand the mystery of *God's providence* might not lead us into an immediate and clear understanding of *what* God is doing, but it can lead us into an immediate and clear understanding of the fact that *God is* doing something for our good and his glory!

apply

- How have you seen God's providence at work in the good circumstances and experiences of your life?
- *Difficult Providences* are hard things that bring blessings. How have you seen God work in the difficult circumstances of your life?
- What might God be doing in the world through the Coronavirus epidemic?

pray

Lord, help us to see that you are always in control. We are grateful for your providential care in our lives, our families, and our world. Help us to trust all things to you as you are working out your plans for us, for our family, and for our world.

by Walt Mueller

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