

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS ...



So did God “drop the ball?”

We sing “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands,” but it sure doesn’t always seem like that, does it?

Think about it. From the very beginning, in fact within days of our existence on the planet, we humans have rebelled against our Creator God. From his wisdom and goodness and majesty, he spoke paradise into being. He then fashioned us in his image--the image of God--out of the dust of the ground and gave us a perfect world to care for and rule over. But it took Adam and Eve only a matter of days (weeks at the most) to bring a curse on every good thing that God had made.

What was God thinking? Did he not see that coming? This does not seem to be much of a track record for success as we humans typically view success, is it? I mean isn’t this what the scoffers and doubters loudly proclaim? *“If there is a god, then why would he allow this? If god is so loving, then why are these things happening?”*

Our world is a mess, and it doesn’t take a genius to figure that out. War, domestic violence, political turmoil, economic ruin and devastating poverty ravage every part of the globe in one way or another. We have a world leader who lives on the edge of insanity launching test missiles as his way of sabre-rattling. Uncertainty, fear and anger often rule the day. Civil unrest and the resulting violence seem to be more and more our new normal. **So may I please ask again, “Did God drop the ball?”**

Let’s recount more of our history. Adam and Eve not only brought a curse on the planet, but in their sinful rebellion they brought depravity and death to everyone who followed. You. Me. Everyone everywhere in the world. No exceptions.

Adam’s son Cain murdered his brother Abel. Within 1,600 years of creation, the rebellion of humankind and the subsequent evil had grown to such proportions that God saw the need to wipe out the entire population with the exception of Noah’s family of eight. Drastic measures

indeed. And all of this mess after a perfect, start from scratch, everything new beginning as decided by and according to the riches of the infinite wisdom of our Creator God.

Humans rebelled and disobeyed God’s instructions at Babel. God’s own chosen people, the children of Israel, have a long, sordid history of rebellion through idol worship and immorality.

An overview of the history or humankind shows a persistent pattern of rebellion against God. From the first days of creation to our present time. So how do we make sense of this? How do we figure out what is going on? Short answer: We don’t, but if we are willing, then God will reveal the mystery to us from his word.

God takes everything in earth history, and everything before and after, and directs our attention to the revealing (the apocalypse) of Jesus Christ. God’s involvement from creation until the very last days only “makes sense” when we see everything through the revelation of Christ.

- (Revelation 10:7 ESV) But that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, **the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.**

Our text this morning speaks of that glorious day in the future when his kingdom will come in all its fullness on this earth as it is in heaven. The only way we understand the plan and purpose of God is to view his timeline in his word from eternity past to eternity future.

- (Revelation 11:15 ESV) Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, **“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”**

So, no, God did not drop the ball. He certainly does and always will “have the whole world in his hands.”

OOPS ...

