"Letting God Be God"

Rev. Art Alexander Metro New York District Superintendent

"...everything in the heavens and earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your Kingdom. We adore You as being in control of everything."

I Chronicles 29:11 LB

➢God is in control of nature. Psalm 148:8; Isaiah 45:12

➢God is in control of history.
Isaiah 14:26-27; Isaiah 46:10, 11

➤God is in control over our lives.
Acts 17:26; Job 14:5; Exodus 31:1-13

How God's Control Affects My Life:

I. Because God is in control, my plans HAVE A LIMIT.

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Proverbs 19:21 NIV

"We make our plans but God has the last word." Proverbs 16:1 GNB

"Now listen, you who say 'today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on the business and make money!' You don't even know what will happen tomorrow... instead you ought to say, *'if it is the Lord's will*, we will do this or that'..." James 4:13-15 NIV

"We should make plans, counting on God to direct us." Proverbs 16:9 LB

How God's Control Affects My Life:

II. Because God is in control, my problems HAVE A PURPOSE.

"...at present, you may be temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials. This is no accident... it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold." I Peter 6,7 Phillips

"The Lord had given me everything I had and they were His to take away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21 LB

"That is why we never give up... for our present troubles are quite small and won't last very long, yet they produce in us an immeasurable great glory that will last forever." 2 Corinthians 4:16, 17 NLT

"So we don't look at the troubles we can see right now; rather we look forward to what we have not yet seen." 2 Corinthians 4:18 NLT

How God's Control Affects My Life:

III. Because God is in control, my prayers HAVE AN IMPACT.

"[God] ... is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of... infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes." Ephesians 3:20 LB

"You do not have, because you do not ask God." James 4:25 NIV

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us... we can be sure that He will give us what we ask for." I John 5:14, 15 NIV/NLT