

Grace OPC High School Sunday Class Topic Summary			
Year:	1 of 4		Date: Weeks 7-8
Quarter:	1 of 4	Theology	
Lesson Title:	God's Decree		
Lesson Purpose:	To examine God's Decree so that we understand what it is, its characteristics, where we find it in Scripture, its extent and its applications.		

### 1. Lesson 1

- ❑ God from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of His own will, freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass.
- ❑ He is not the author of sin and does not make anyone do anything they do not want to do.
- ❑ God did not have to make His plan and did not need to do so. Neither did He look into the future and see what would happen, then make this His plan. Had any of these situations been true, He would not be the God of the Bible.
- ❑ God's decree includes the unchangeable eternal destiny of men and angels, as individuals.
- ❑ We know something of God's decree from His Word. We know that anything else is His decree as it comes to pass. He has chosen not to reveal all of His purposes to us but we know they are all holy and wise and good.

### 2. Lesson 2

- ❑ Those God predestined to be His people, He chose in Christ before the world began, that they might inherit heaven.
- ❑ This choice arose only from God's free grace and did not depend at all on anything in the creature.
- ❑ The reason God does this is for the praise of His glorious grace
- ❑ God also decreed the means by which His elect would be saved – redemption, justification, adoption, sanctification and keeping by His power through faith
- ❑ The remainder of mankind God passes by. They are left to receive the due penalty for their sins as rebels and God haters. Although they may be called to repentance, they do not want God and love their sins too much to leave them.
- ❑ The reason God does this is for the praise of His justice
- ❑ We need to be careful in the way we handle this doctrine, since many have misunderstood them and been led into unhelpful extremes. Rightly handled, they bring thrilling, heartwarming comfort and consolation to the child of God.

### 3. Further Reading

The Sovereignty Of God. A.W. Pink. ISBN: 0851511333

Evangelism & the Sovereignty of God. J.I. Packer. ISBN: 083081339X

Systematic Theology Volume 1, Charles Hodge, Pp. 535-549, ISBN 1-56563-459-4

Systematic Theology, R.L. Dabney, Pp. 211-246, ISBN 0-85151-453-7