

# God is in Control

## Introduction

1. For all of our ability and power, some things make us feel very small and insignificant.
2. In spite of all of the theories they had, Job and his friends learned how little they truly knew (Job 37-42).
3. God created all things (Genesis 1; John 1:1-3), and He upholds all things (Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:15-17). He is in control.
  - I. He is in Control of the Universe.
    - A. Its beginning cannot be explained without Him.
    - B. Would you not hate to have to explain this:

### **Earth's Lucky Break**

1. The earth is positioned at just the right distance from the sun so that we receive exactly the proper amount of heat to support life. Other planets are either too hot or too cold to sustain life.
2. Any appreciable change in the rate of rotation of the earth would make life impossible. For example, if the earth were to rotate at 1/10th its present rate, all plant life would either be burned to a crisp during the day or frozen at night.
3. Temperature variations are kept within reasonable limits due to the nearly circular orbit of the earth around the sun.
4. The moon revolves around the earth at a distance of about 240,000 miles causing harmless tides on the earth. If the moon were located 1/5th of this distance away, the continents would be completely submerged twice a day.
5. The thickness of the earth's crust and the depth of the oceans appear to be carefully designed. Increases in the thickness or depth of only a few feet would so drastically alter the absorption of free oxygen and carbon dioxide that plant and animal life could not exist.
6. The earth's axis is tilted 23 and 1/2 degrees from the perpendicular of the plane of its orbit. This tilting, combined with the earth's revolution around the sun, causes our seasons, which are absolutely essential for the raising of food supplies.
7. The earth's atmosphere (ozone layer) serves as a protective shield from lethal ultraviolet radiation, which would otherwise destroy all life.
8. The earth's atmosphere also serves to protect earth from approximately 20 million meteors that enter it each day at speeds of about 30 miles per second! Without this crucial protection the danger to life would be immense.
9. The two primary constituents of the earth's atmosphere are nitrogen (78 percent) and oxygen (20 percent). This delicate and critical ratio is essential to all life forms.
10. The earth is uniquely blessed with a bountiful supply of water which is the key substance of life due to its remarkable and essential physical properties.

*"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork."*

*Psalm 19:1*

*-selected*

II. He is in Control of Nature.

A. Consider these passages.

1. Job 37:5-13
2. Matthew 6:28-30
3. Genesis 8:22
4. Amos 4:7

B. He is in control of animals.

1. Fiery serpents
2. Two She Bears
3. Abraham's ram
4. John's Big Fish
5. Peter's fish with the coin

Numbers 21:4-9  
2 Kings 2:23, 24  
Genesis 22:13  
Jonah 1:17  
Matthew 17:27

III. He is in Control of Men.

A. Consider these passages.

1. Romans 13:1
2. Daniel 2:21

B. Why do bad things happen?

IV. He is in Control of the Church.

A. Consider these passages.

1. Matthew 6:25-33
2. Matthew 16:16-19

B. Why do bad things happen?

Think On These Things

1. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
2. I have a problem. It's me.
3. Growing old is inevitable. Growing up is optional.
4. There is no key to happiness. The door is always open.
5. Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
6. Do the math-count your blessings.
7. Faith is the ability to not panic.
8. Laugh every day. It's like inner jogging.
9. If you worry, don't pray. If you pray, don't worry.
10. As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home everyday.
11. Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.
12. The most important thing in your home are the people.
13. When we get tangled up in our problems, be still. God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot.
14. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
15. True greatness is to serve unnoticed and to work unseen.