

So Paul stressed that in Galatians. He stressed it in Titus toward the very end of his life. In Titus 3:9 he says, "but avoid foolish questions and genealogies, and contentions and strivings about the law for they are unprofitable and vain." This matter of balance is very vital in our relation == in the question of our attitude toward unbelief. It is also vital in many other areas which I wish I had time to speak to you about.

I'd like to take time to say ~~me~~ a word or two about an area in which it is very easy to become unbalanced. ~~That~~ That is the area of the sovereignty of God and the free agency of man. Many a person has tried to get a place ~~in~~ inbetween these, an intermediate position, and there is no such thing. God ~~strongly~~ strongly emphasizes the sovereignty of God. He controls all things. God has established everything for His own purpose. Not a sparrow falls to the ground without my Father's knowledge. Every aspect of what has happened, and what will happen is under His control. He has predestined us from the very foundation of the world. In Eph. 4 he repeats 4 times over the absolute control God has. What a comfort it is to the Christian. ~~But~~ To know that things may ~~be~~ go terribly wrong, but if we are truly following the Lord, they are going wrong because he has a purpose in it for our good. Whatever happens we can know that God holds it in His hands, and He has put us here for His purposes and He has his plan that He will work out in our lives. It is a doctrine which is tremendously helpful and blessed to the Christian and which we should never lose sight of. But when we take this doctrine and make it the primary thing, so primary that we forget the corollary doctrine of the free agency of man. We get into danger of doing great harm. One danger is the overemphasis on one side produces an overemphasis on the opposite side.