

God's Appointments

- I. Definitions.
 - A. appoint: To determine authoritatively, prescribe, decree, ordain. *trans.* To determine authoritatively, prescribe, fix (a time, later a place) for any act.
 - B. ordain: To appoint, decree, destine, order. *trans.* To appoint (a person, etc.) to a charge, duty, or office. Of the Deity, fate, or supernatural power: To appoint as part of the order of the universe or of nature; to decree, predestine, destine.
 - C. determine: I. To put an end or limit to; to come to an end. II. To bring to an end a dispute, controversy, or doubtful matter; to conclude, settle, decide, fix. III. To direct to some end or conclusion; to come to some conclusion.
- II. Men commonly make appointments for or to events, positions, offices, etc. and these are subject to alterations, frustrations and debate.
 - A. God makes appointments that are certain, not subject to unforeseen circumstances, and are only altered by His order.
 - B. This is a facet of His sovereignty over everything. **DAN 4:35; ISA 46:10-11.**
 - C. It is vain to fight against God's ordained purposes. **ACT 5:39; 11:17; PSA 2:1-6.**
 - D. God's appointments are never undone by the "cancel culture." **JER 33:20-21.**
- III. Nature, even under the bondage of corruption, functions by God's appointments.
 - A. By His word, all are kept in store for now. **2PE 3:7.**
 - B. The seas have appointed boundaries they cannot pass. **PRO 8:29.**
 - C. The heavenly bodies have fixed positions and motions. **GEN 1:14; JDG 5:20.**
 - D. The constants are perpetual by God's order. **GEN 8:22.**
 - E. Scientific inquiry and advancements depend upon immutable laws of nature.
 - F. God is the God of order Who orders all things in order to please Himself and give us stability so that we may function profitably and fear Him. **JER 5:24.**
 1. The presence of order rather than chaos should prompt men to repent, give thanks, and give God glory. **ROM 2:4.**
 2. Sin tends to reject the message, which has prompted great resets through the disruption of the normal order. **LUK 17:26-30.**
- IV. God appoints times for promises to be fulfilled. **GEN 18:14; EXO 9:5.**
 - A. The long-awaited Messiah had to come according to schedule. **GAL 4:4.**
 - B. There is an appointed time of Christ's return known only to God. **MAR 13:32-33.**
 - C. We are thus called to patience, for when such promises are fulfilled, they happen quickly. **HEB 10:37-38 ct/w 2PE 3:4-5.**
- V. God has appointed nations and boundaries for man's good. **ACT 17:26-27.**
 - A. God appoints earthly dignities who rule at His pleasure. **DAN 5:21; JOH 19:11.**
 - B. God has appointed spiritual dignities over earthly dignities. **COL 1:16-17; ACT 12:21-23.**
- VI. God has ever appointed times, places, ordinances, servants for His service.
 - A. Israel had appointed:
 1. priests. **NUM 3:10.**
 2. Levites. **NUM 1:50-51.**
 3. modes and details. **LEV 10:1-2.**
 4. places. **LEV 17:3-4.**

5. offerings. **HEB 9:6, 10, 13.**
 6. feasts, high days, assemblies. **ISA 1:13-14.**
 7. many such non-negotiable, non-alterable demands for service.
- B. The N.T. church has:
1. an appointed kingdom and feast with details. **LUK 22:29-30 c/w 1CO 5, 10, 11.**
 2. ordained officers. **LUK 9:1; 10:1; TIT 1:5; ACT 6:3.**
 - a. The apostles were the first order of servants.
 - b. They had a special appointment of reproaches. **1CO 4:9.**
 3. decrees to keep. **ACT 16:4.**
 4. appointed tribulations. **1TH 3:3.**
- VII. Salvation involves many appointments.
- A. Sin appointed us to death and the judgment. **HEB 9:27.**
 - B. Our days, death and burial are appointments. **JOB 14:5; 30:23.**
 - C. Our interment is by appointment unto the last day. **JOB 14:12-15.**
 - D. The time and manner of Christ's death for our sins was by appointment. **ACT 2:23; 4:28.**
 - E. Christ was faithful to Him that appointed Him. **HEB 3:2.**
 - F. Christ was ordained to be the Judge of the quick and dead. **ACT 10:42; 17:31.**
 - G. We are thus not appointed to wrath but to salvation. **1TH 5:9.**
 - H. His glorious gospel is appointed for mournful sinners. **ISA 61:1-3.**