

We Are Not God's Robots

I. Introduction: (**Romans 8:28**)

- A. The faithful have God's help (**Psalms 121:2-3** and **Hebrews 13:5-6**).
 - 1. God hears His children (**Proverbs 15:29** and **I John 5:14-15**).
 - 2. He provides for us (**Luke 12:22-31**).
- B. However, God does not control us or others (**I Samuel 8:1-10**).
 - 1. No one makes us sin or makes us do right (**James 1:12-16; 4:17**).
 - 2. God is sovereign [supreme authority] (**Isaiah 46:9-10**).
 - 3. God's choice is to give us the ability to choose (**Joshua 24:20-24**, **Judges 10:11-14**, and **Philippians 2:12-13**).

II. Body: The question of "freewill" (**Revelation 22:17**).

- A. Accepting or rejecting the truth is in your hands (**Luke 7:29-30**, **Acts 13:44-46**, and **Acts 26:26-29**; cf. **I Timothy 2:3-6**).
 - 1. Salvation is conditioned upon each one's choices (**John 6:51**, **Romans 10:1-3; 20-21**, and **I Corinthians 15:1-2**).
 - 2. We can ignore the truth (**Matthew 13:14-15**).
- B. Some think the Holy Spirit "opens their eyes" (**Acts 1:5**; cf. **I Corinthians 2:9-16**).
 - 1. They miss the point of the passages they use that teach inspiration and guidance for a period of time (**John 14:26; 16:13**, **Acts 4:31**, **II Peter 1:20-21**; cf. **I Corinthians 13:8-10**, etc.).
 - 2. Folks, does the Spirit then fail when eyes are not opened (**Acts 7:51**; cf. **John 6:63**)?
- C. We need to apply some of these truths to our prayers (**I Corinthians 14:15**).
 - 1. God does not give preachers today "a ready recollection", ability to simplify, knowledge of the truth, etc. (**I Timothy 1:6-7** and **II Timothy 2:15**).
 - 2. God does not make your employer give you a raise (**Ephesians 6:5-8**).
 - 3. God does not implant knowledge, you have to learn (**John 5:39**).
 - 4. God does not directly tell you choices to make (**Titus 3:1-3**).
 - 5. If God did directly influence men, why would the Gospel need preached by man (**Titus 1:3**)? Why does the Bible exist (**II Timothy 3:15-17**)?
 - 6. God won't "keep us sound" (**Titus 2:7-8**; cf. **Revelation 2-3**).
 - 7. God won't "send us visitors", they need to seek to find (**Luke 11:9**).

III. Conclusion:

- A. God's influence on us is through His word (**James 1:19-25**).
- B. We have our own two hands, feet, etc. controlling our future (**I Timothy 4:1** and **I John 5:18-21**).