

## Andrew Wommack

Andrew Wommack is a radio teacher who advocates the “prosperity gospel” (God wants every person to be wealthy and never to be sick). He is a man who no doubt has sincere motives and who works hard to minister the Word of God to people. In my judgment, however, his errors are so severe that his ministry does a great deal of harm, and I strongly recommend against ever listening to or reading any of his material.

In Wommack’s article titled “The Sovereignty of God” he begins by relating the story of a friend who had been bitter and angry at God because of some suffering. The friend had humbled himself, however, and was back to loving God because the friend had discovered the doctrine of the sovereignty of God and had resigned himself to God’s full control. Wommack’s next statement is this: “I believe this is the worst doctrine in the church today” because it is “a faith killer.” He continues: “The belief that God controls everything that happens to us is one of the devil's biggest inroads into our lives.”

In the same article Wommack states that God does not damn people to hell. It is only their free will that does so.

Wommack goes on to say that even worse than living independently from God is “religion teaching us that all our problems are actually blessings from God. That is a faith killer.” He states that the only time affliction ever comes from God is as a curse, never a blessing.

But the psalmist doesn’t agree.

**Psalm 119:71 It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.**

This false doctrine leads Wommack into a system of self-reliance. Since God cannot help we are left to help ourselves. This explains why Wommack makes such statements as, “You have a tumor? Don’t pray to God about the tumor. Talk to the tumor itself!”

Wommack believes in the “Word of Faith” theology that conceives of faith as a force conveyed by words that bring about reality. If you say, “I think I’m going to get a cold” you will actually create the cold (unless someone else counters your negative words by saying something positive). All of this takes place independently of God.

In his series titled “The Believer’s Authority” he tells the story of when his infant son kept waking up all through the night with symptoms of croup so severe that he could hardly breathe. This happened every half hour all night long. Finally his mother said, “Admit it Andy, he’s sick.” Wommack said, “Man I got right down in her face and stuck my finger in her face and I said, ‘Satan in the name of Jesus I command you to shut up. ... And for two days she never said a word. We were on vacation. It was an awesome vacation – you can imagine.’”

Wommack teaches that God gave man all authority on earth, so that God Himself had no authority. The reason Jesus had to come in human flesh was to gain that human authority. He

teaches that God had limited His own authority by giving it to man such that God was unable to speak Jesus' body into existence. And so God had to find men to do it on their authority. It took God 4000 years to find enough men with enough combined authority to create Jesus' body. Apart from the help of men God was unable to create a body for Jesus.

In part 3 of "The Believer's Authority" Wommack utters this blaspheme: "When (people) see that some sickness, disease, tragedy comes into their life, instead of taking their authority and rebuking the devil and commanding him to leave, instead they go to God ... and they beg God, 'Oh God please change this situation. Oh God please get the devil off my back.' And it's not within God's power and authority. He gave us that power and authority."

He teaches that it is wrong to pray for revival, because that is to usurp Christ's role as intercessor. The responsibility is completely ours, and so it is wrong to ask God for revival or for Him to have mercy on sinners.

Scripture is very clear that trials are indeed from God, and that God does indeed control all things.

**Ecclesiastes 7:14 When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other.**

**Job 1:21-22 "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." 22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.**

**Job 2:1 9-10 His wife said to him, "Are you still holding on to your integrity? Curse God and die!" 10 He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.**

**Lamentations 3:38 Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that both calamities and good things come?**

**Daniel 4:35 He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?"**

**Psalms 135:6 The LORD does all that he pleases, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.**

**Ephesians 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will**

**Isaiah 46:10-11 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. 11 From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.**

The total control of God over all things is one of the most comforting and wonderful doctrines in Scripture. If God is not in control of the calamities and sufferings in your life, then those

calamities are meaningless. And if God has no ability to prevent them, then how can we take comfort in His promises to protect and care for us? It is the denial, not the affirmation of God's sovereignty that is a faith killer.