

# Job 12:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?

## Analysis

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'Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?' Job affirms divine sovereignty—God's 'hand' (יָד, yad) 'wrought' (הָשַׁעַת, astah—made, did) everything. This echoes Genesis 1 and Psalm 104. Job never questions God's sovereignty or creative power; he questions the friends' interpretation of how sovereignty operates. The name 'LORD' (הָאֵל, YHWH) emphasizes covenant faithfulness. Job's point: everyone acknowledges God's creative power, but this doesn't validate the friends' simplistic moral calculus. Divine sovereignty is more complex than reward-and-punishment mechanics. The Reformed emphasis on God's absolute sovereignty includes His freedom to accomplish purposes through means we don't comprehend.

## Historical Context

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The use of YHWH here is significant—Job isn't questioning whether the covenant God exists or rules, but how His rule operates in a world where the righteous suffer and the wicked prosper.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

1. How do we affirm God's absolute sovereignty while resisting simplistic explanations of His purposes?
2. What is the relationship between God's creative power and His moral governance?

## Interlinear Text

לֹא	מִ	לֹא	יְדָע	בְּכָל	כִּי	אֵלֶּה	בְּכָל	יְדָע
H4310	H3808	<b>Who knoweth</b>	H3045	H3605	H428	H3588	<b>not in all these that the hand</b>	H3027
<b>of the LORD</b>		<b>hath wrought</b>		H2063				
H3068		H6213						

## Additional Cross-References

**Isaiah 41:20** (References Lord): That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it.

**Romans 11:36** (Parallel theme): For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

**Acts 19:35** (Parallel theme): And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter?

**Daniel 9:17** (References Lord): Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.

**1 Samuel 2:7** (References Lord): The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and liftest up.

**Daniel 5:18** (Parallel theme): O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour:

**Job 12:3** (Parallel theme): But I have understanding as well as you; I am not inferior to you: yea, who knoweth not such things as these?

**Job 22:18** (Parallel theme): Yet he filled their houses with good things: but the counsel of the wicked is far from me.