

Week 34  
240/125

**Transforming Daily**  
**“. . . the hand of the Lord . . .”**  
*Ruth 1:13*

What does it mean to say “the hand of the Lord?” In most cases, it is a reference by the one who said it to the circumstances in which they have found themselves, God’s will. While it is certain that God either allows, assigns, appoints, or arranges the circumstances in which we live, we must not irresponsibly attribute certain events to God. For instance, God allowed sin to enter the world, but He did not assign, arrange, or appoint sin. While God allows evil to exist for a while, He is not evil nor is He the Father of it. The Word of God says very clearly that God tempts no man (James 1:13). God will appoint discipline for His children as a loving Father (Hebrews 12:6). God will arrange for the testing of our faith (Job 1:6-12, 2:1-6, chs.38-42). He will even assign circumstances to communicate His will for our lives (Numbers 22:22-35; Jonah 1:17).

It is probably better to say that “it seems like” or “perhaps it might be” that God is . . . , but we must be very careful not to blaspheme God or pervert His Word. Keep in mind when God delivered the Israelites from Egypt He led them across the Red Sea and out through the wilderness. Throughout the exodus, many of the children of God kept complaining about the circumstances under which they were being delivered, and attributed to Him the hardships and inconveniences they were experiencing. God finally had enough of their blasphemy and told Moses and the people by their own words and testimony of what they attributed to Him would He allow their experience to be.

Also keep in mind that God is not a genie in a bottle, but the God of the Bible. He does according to His good pleasure and for His name sake. It is only due to His grace and mercy that we are afforded the opportunity of redemption through Jesus Christ, His Son. We have no rights in Christ. We bear no authority to claim anything. We live and breathe because God sustains it to be so. And what a wonderful sense of liberty and freedom in righteousness that it is.

What is your perspective of God’s hand in your life? Can you rightly distinguish His will from yours? Do you have a healthy reverence and respect for God? Or do you resist the hand of the Lord?