

# Study QUESTIONS

## Ep. 1208: Do We Really Have Free Will?

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1208-free-will/>

See:  **CQ Rewind**  
SHOW NOTES

1. List and explain the three criteria for determining free will from the article by Andrea Lavazza.
2. What do we know about God's will?
  - a. What is the difference between "complete" and "flawless"? What is another way to say this? (See James 1:17-18)
  - b. Is God constrained by His own natural laws? What drives God's decisions? (See Daniel 2:19-23, Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:18)
  - c. What aspect of God's plan was predicted right from the beginning of man? What was the hint given? (See Genesis 3:15, James 3:17-18)
3. In what way were we created in God's *image* according to His *likeness*? What could have happened to the Garden of Eden if Adam had *not* sinned? Why was the garden the perfect environment in which to learn to be like God? (See Genesis 1:26, 2:8-9, 15-17)
4. Using the criteria above, describe the process of Adam and Eve's free will choice to disobey. What was Lucifer's part in this choice? What was Lucifer's motivation? How did this change the relationship between Adam, Eve and God? How did it change Adam and Eve? (See Genesis 3:1-13, Isaiah 14:12-14)
5. Did God remove the free will from these men in the Bible - Pharaoh, Saul, Herod and Pilate?
  - a. How did God "harden" Pharaoh's heart? Did Pharaoh have a choice in the decisions he made? How should Pharaoh's example warn us of our reaction to our hard experiences? (See Exodus 7:12-14, 9:12, Romans 9:17, 18)
  - b. How did God support Saul as he became king of Israel? How did Saul disobey the Lord's instructions with the Amalekites? Did an evil spirit from the Lord terrorize Saul, causing mental illness? Did God remove Saul's free will by sending him this evil spirit? Explain. (See 1 Samuel 10:9, 15:20-23, 16:13-15)
  - c. Were Herod and Pilate predestined to crucify Jesus? Were Jesus' disciples predestined to cry out joyfully when Jesus passed? How does God use the free will of mankind to further His plan? (See Acts 4:27-28, Luke 19:37-40)
6. How did Noah and Joshua exemplify positive free will choices? What can we take from their examples? (See Genesis 6:5-9, 2 Peter 2:5, Joshua 24:14-15)
7. What choice do you have at this time in your life in regards to your walk with God? If you do not choose the current opportunity, what choice will you have in the future? Which path have you chosen? (See Ephesians 2:1-6, Romans 5:18, 1 Peter 2:12) What is the purpose of God creating man with the ability to exercise free will? How do you use your free will?