

Ezra 6:21-22 -- "And the sons of Israel who returned from exile and all those who had separated themselves from the impurity of the nations of the land to join them, to seek the Lord God of Israel, ate the Passover. And they observed the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy, for the Lord had caused them to rejoice, and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria toward them to encourage them in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel."

Acts 2:23 -- "this Man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death."

Deuteronomy 8:11-14, 17-18 -- "Beware lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; lest, when you have eaten and are satisfied, you have built good houses and lived in them, and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your hearts become proud, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery . . . . Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.' But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Acts 4:27-28 -- "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Thy holy servant Jesus, whom Thou didst anoint, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Thy hand and Thy purpose predestined to occur."

Philippians 2:12-13 -- "So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure."

### 3. Scriptural background to Government

Scripture teaches God's providential direction and control in a number of areas, including the following:

#### a. God's government over the universe in general

Psalm 103:19 -- "The Lord has established His throne in the heavens;  
And His sovereignty rules over all."

Daniel 4:34-35 -- "But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me,