



What Do You Believe?

What Has God Provided?

OT: Isaiah 43:1-7 | NT: Acts 17:24-28

Optative Mood	parameters	Ordinary Providence
Epimenides	Providence	Bare permission
Variables	contingent	Common Grace

1. How does an understanding of God's Providence depend upon our understanding of God?
2. What does the analogy of a computer programmer tell us about variables, parameters, and outcomes in our universe? (Examples of expressions with variables on reverse.)
3. What has God provided? What does this mean?
4. What is the problem with the deist proposition of God as a watchmaker?
5. How does Common Grace benefit all, and how is grace otherwise applied to God's church?

Scripture Cited: Isaiah 43:1-7; Acts 17:24-28; Job 12:10; Hebrews 1:3; Daniel 4:34-35; Matthew 10:29-31; Job chapters 38-41; Proverbs 25:3; 2 Chronicles 32:25; 2 Corinthians 12:7; Genesis 50:20; Romans 1:24

The following are examples of expressions given with inclusive and exclusive variables, written in a sort of computer language, in mathematical expression, and in more conversant language.

Example 1:

- $((\text{var } x + \text{var } y) \neq (>= "5")) \& ((\text{var } x + \text{var } y) \neq (<= "10"))$
- $(x+y) \neq (n \geq 5) \text{ AND } (x+y) \neq (n \leq 10)$
- Or the sum of x and y cannot be between 5 and 10

Example 2:

- $((\text{var } x + \text{var } y) = (>= "5")) \& ((\text{var } x + \text{var } y) = (<= "10"))$
- $(x+y) = (n \geq 5) \text{ AND } (x+y) = (n \leq 10)$
- Or, The sum of x and y must be between 5 and 10

Example 3:

- $(\text{var } x + \text{var } y) = "10"$
 - Where $\text{var } x = \text{int } (>= "2" \& <= "4")$ and
 - Where $\text{var } y = \text{int } (>= "5" \& <= "7")$
- OR
- $(x+y) = 10$
 - Where x is an integer between 2 and 4, and
 - Where y is an integer between 5 and 7