

## Introduction

Hope Peacock, daughter of Pastor Trevor and his wife Heather, was found unconscious last Wednesday morning in her bed when her parents came to wake her up. Since that time, she was moved to a life support machine that completely took over the responsibility for both pumping and oxygenating her blood, replacing the function of both her heart and lungs. Very quickly after this, thousands of people began praying. As we continue to pray, I'd like use this opportunity to discuss one of the hardest Christian doctrines, the doctrine of providence. Serious concerns remain concerning Hope's recovery. As more and more people talk about what is happening, I believe that this is an opportune time to discuss this doctrine to help fellow believers grow in the Lord, and also as a reflection so that nonbelievers can see the basis and foundation of our hope. These two papers are an attempt to begin that discussion.

The first paper is background about the doctrine of providence. My hope is that it will work both a quick refresher or as an introduction, it is based heavily on a presentation on providence done by R.W.Glenn and Todd Friel in a product called Drive-by Theology.

The second paper, is a look at how this relates to Hope, the Peacock family, and the Church body worldwide. Although written focusing on this particular situation, my prayer is that it should have some value to anyone facing questions about how God can use a bad situation for good, and also how we as Christians should respond to events that may initially seem to have nothing good in them.