

**Sermon Title: The Final Destination is Glory**

**Sermon Text: Romans 8:28-30**

**Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to find joy unspeakable in a secured glory.**

**Sermon Proposition: There are 3 pictures of glorification the hearer finds security in.**

- I. The **Guarnteeor** of glorification. V.28
- II. The **goal** of glorification. V.29
- III. The **genealogy** of glorification. V.29a-30

I. The **Guarnteeor** of glorification. V.28

- A. The **certainty** of secured glorification. V.28a

These three words provide the Christian's absolute certainty of our eternal security in and by the Holy Spirit. Paul is stating that the truth and certainty of eternal security is clearly revealed by God to us, so that all believers are able with certainty to know and be comforted with a certainty of hope, that takes God at His Word.

- B. The **capacity** of secured glorification. V.28b

Through God's providential care "all things work together for good." Paul states, "that believers know this because they have come to know and understand God in Christ and experience the fullness of His grace in their lives.

It is the sovereign guidance of God that is presumed as the undergirding and directing force behind all the events of life. (**Romans 8:26-27**)

**Hebrews 7:25** Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Many of the events that we suffer in Christ, will contribute to our "good" by refining, proving, and strengthening our hope and faith. God may well use trials, troubles, tribulations, in various areas of our life to produce what He considers a much higher "good" a stronger faith and certainty of hope. (**Romans 5:3-4**)

- C. The **convert** of secured glorification. V.28c

(**2 Corinthians 12:9; Colossians 1:9; 3:16; Ephesians 1:17**)

Loving God and the "good" that God loves, is a term often used in the Old Testament and Jewish literature to describe God's people. "Loving God" is therefore a qualification for the enjoyment of the promise of this verse, but it is a qualification met by all who belong to Christ. "Loving God" sums up the basic inner direction of the life of a true Christian – but only Christians.

- D. The **cause** of secured glorification.

The real basic reason why Christians can know and should know the truth "all things work for good." Is because "we know that those who love God, are those summoned by God to enter into a relationship with Him, a summons that is in accordance with God's purpose to mold us into the image of Christ and to glorify us." [Douglas Moo, *The NIC on N.T. The Epistle of Romans*, p. 350]

- 1) God causes righteous things to work for our good. (**Acts 1:8**)

**Deuteronomy 33:27** The eternal God *is your* refuge, And underneath *are* the everlasting arms; He will thrust out the enemy from before you, And will say, `Destroy!'

**2 Corinthians 12:9** And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- 2) God's wisdom provides for our good.

- 3) God's faithfulness works for our good.  
**Hosea 14:4** "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from him.  
**Micah 7:18** Who *is* a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights *in* mercy.
- 4) God's goodness works to the good of His children. (**Romans 2:4**)
- 5) God's Word is for our good.  
**Acts 20:32** "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.  
**1 Timothy 4:5** for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.
- 6) God's holy angels work for the good of those who belong to Him.  
**Hebrews 1:14** Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?
- 7) God's children are ministers of His good to each other. (**Romans 1:12**)  
**2 Corinthians 1:24** Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand.  
**Hebrews 1:14** Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?
- 8) God causes even evil things to work for our good.  
Children of Israel wilderness; Job, Christ  
**Daniel 6:21** Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! **22** "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you." **23** Then the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.
  - a) Category one suffering
  - b) Category two temptation
  - c) Category three sin**(1 Corinthians 11:29-30; Acts 5:11; Genesis 50:20)**  
**2 Chronicles 33:12** Now when he was in affliction, he implored the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, **13** and prayed to Him; and He received his entreaty, heard his supplication, and brought him back to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD *was* God.  
**Job 42:5** "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. **6** Therefore I abhor *myself*, And repent in dust and ashes."

[John MacArthur, *New Testament Commentary Romans 1-8*, p.476-578]

## II. The goal of glorification. V.29

### A. The secondary goal of salvation. V.29b

Paul seems to imply that believers were and are destined from conversion and the point of repentance [**2 Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*] onward to "be conformed" to Christ's pattern of suffering followed by glory. (**Philippians 2:5-11**)

The Father finds and offers a bride for His Son.

B. The **primary** goal of salvation. V.29c

The primary goal of salvation is the preeminence of Christ in offering salvation to all of mankind.

**John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

**2 Peter 3:9** The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

But in Romans 8:28, Paul is speaking in a specific sense restricted to the meaning of God's purpose, focusing on God's divine plan to save those whom He has called and "predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son (v.29). This is the focus of God's sovereign plan of redemption, which He ordained before the foundation of the earth.

(**John 1:12-13**)

**Deuteronomy 7:7** "The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; **8** "but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

**Isaiah 46:9** Remember the former things of old, For I *am* God, and *there is* no other; I *am* God, and *there is* none like Me, **10** Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times *things* that are not *yet* done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' **11** Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken *it*; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed *it*; I will also do it.

III. The **genealogy** of glorification. V.29a-30

A. The **foreknowledge** of glorification. V.29a

When we speak of God foreknowing in this text, it is not a reference to intellectual information. But rather refers to those whom God set His electing love upon in eternity past. If then, the word means "to know intimately," or "have regard for," this refers to a knowledge or love that is unique to believers and that leads to them being predestined. God took the divine initiative in the outworking of His purposes. (**1 Corinthians 8:3**)

**John 17:25** "O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.

**John 6:37** "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

**1 Peter 1:1** Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **2** elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

**1 Peter 1:20** He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

**Jeremiah 1:5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

Foreknew is from (proginosko), a compound word meaning beyond that of simply knowing beforehand. In Scripture "to know" often carries the idea of special intimacy and is mostly used in reference to a love relationship.

**Genesis 4:17** And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son-- Enoch.

**Amos 3:2** "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

**Matthew 1:25** and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

**Matthew 7:23** "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

- B. The **predestination** of glorification. V.29b

The foreknowledge looks at the beginning of God's purpose in saving, choosing, according to the plan of redemption. Predestination (prooizo) predestined means literally to mark out, appoint or determine beforehand. God has predestined the final destination of every person who will believe in Him. Just as Jesus was crucified "by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God" according to (**Acts 2:23**), so He has predestined every believer to final destination of salvation.

"Much of contemporary evangelism gives the impression that salvation is predicated on a person's decision for Christ. But we are not Christians first of all because of what God decided about us before the foundation of the world." We choose Him, because He first chose us!

(**Ephesians 1:7-9, 11**) [J.M. Commentary Ibid. 497]

- C. The **calling** of Scripture. V.8:30a

The call is the "effectual" call in which God opens our heart so we can hear His voice (**Acts 16:14**). Calling in Paul's writings never means just an invitation. It is a sovereign summons that draws the sinner from death to life. God summons the sinner effectually into a "new" relationship. This calling takes place in accordance with and on the basis of God's purposes, that Christians should become like Christ. (**Ephesians 2:8-10**).

clhtoi, verb refers to God's specific call

**Romans 1:6** among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; (Rom 1:6 NKJ) **7** To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**1 Corinthians 1:1** Paul, called *to be* an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes *our* brother, **2** To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

**1 Corinthians 1:24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**Jude 1:1** Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:

clh the noun from God is the subject of the call or action

- D. The **justification** of glorification. V.8:30b

This is in reference to God's judicial act of declaring that we have been made "right" with Him, through Jesus Christ. (**2 Corinthians 5:21**)

- E. The **glory** of glorification. V.8:30c (**Romans 8:21**)  
(Past tense)

**2 Thessalonians 2:14** to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**2 Timothy 2:10** Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.