

C. Romans 8:28-30 – Guaranteed to be glorified

1. Romans 8:28 – *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.* God promises to _____ the work He started in each believer's life. Romans 14:4, Philippians 1:6, 1 Thessalonians 5:24, Jude 24-25
 - a. Romans 8:28a – ...*and we* _____ *God*... You can experience tremendous comfort when you know God will keep on working with you to the very end.
 - b. Romans 8:28b – ...*and we know God* _____ *all things to work together*... The phrase *causes to work together* (SUNERGEÓ) is in the present tense, active voice and indicative mood. This is an emphatic statement that right now, at this very moment, your Heavenly Father is actively and decisively working on your behalf.
 - c. Romans 8:28c – ...*and we know God causes all things to* _____ *together for good.* What exactly is this verse saying?
 - 1) First of all, it is important to understand that this promise is not true for all people. It is true only for _____.
 - 2) This promise is not saying all things are good. For example, Satan, sin, false doctrine, rape and _____ are not good. 1 John 2:16
 - 3) This promise does not mean God is working everything together for your physical or _____ good.
 - 4) This promise is not giving you an excuse for making irresponsible decisions. The Bible clearly states that if you live according to the flesh, you will _____ the consequences. Galatians 6:7-8
 - d. Romans 8:28d – ...*and we know God causes all things to work together for* _____. *Good* (AGATHOS) in Greek means good in character, or beneficial.
 - 1) This promise has your spiritual well-being in focus. God is always actively working on your behalf to make all the endless complexities of life _____ together for your success and maturity as a believer.
 - 2) God promises He will use every situation in your life, be it suffering from the consequences of your own bad choices or discipline from His hand, to further your maturity and conform you to the _____ of His Son. Hebrews 12:9-11
 - e. Romans 8:28f – This promise is ...*to those who love God.* Those who love God is a description of _____ believers. 1 Corinthians 2:9, Ephesians 6:24
 - 1) *Those who love God* does not describe a _____ class of particularly faithful or loving believers. This promise is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Why? 1 John 4:19
 - 2) We know that believers can _____ their love for God as did the church at Ephesus (Rev. 2:4-5a). No one loves God perfectly, and yet God keeps working on all believers for their good. 1 Corinthians 8:2-3

- f. Romans 8:28g – This promise is likewise ...*to those who are called*. Those who are called is also a description of _____ believers.
- 1) Since everyone who has ever believed has done so in response to God's call, all believers are referred to as _____ ones. John 6:44, Romans 1:6
 - 2) Spiritual believers, baby believers, and even carnal believers are all _____ of this category of *called* ones. Ephesians 1:13
- g. Romans 8:28f – *to those who are called according to His purpose*. What is the good _____ God seeks to work into the lives of all believers? This will be developed in the following verses.
2. Romans 8:29-30 – *For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.*
- a. Romans 8:29a – *For those whom He foreknew...*
- 1) God's plan for every believer has _____ aspects: predestination, calling, justification and glorification. Each of these is based on God's foreknowledge.
 - a) God is the lone actor in each of these realities. Not one of them relies on _____ effort or works. Because God foreknew, He predestined, He called, He justified and He glorified.
 - b) Notice that sanctification is _____ here. Why? Because God is not the lone actor in your sanctification; your sanctification depends on your cooperation. If as a believer you do not live by means of the Holy Spirit, your sanctification will be hindered.
 - 2) To whom does this refer? *Foreknow* (PROGINOSKO) is a compound word composed of PRO, meaning beforehand, and GINOSKO, meaning to _____. Foreknowledge is not the same as predestination.
 - a) God foreknew _____ person who would ever live in Adam's lineage. In eternity, before the world began, God likewise foreknew all those who would come to belong to Christ.
 - b) God cannot _____ but know everything before it happens. God lives outside the confines of time. 2 Timothy 1:9, Ephesians 1:4, 1 Peter 1:20, 1 John 3:20
 - c) If God has not _____ known the future, He cannot be God. Never for one moment has God not known everything.
 - d) But just because God knows something before it happens, does not _____ He predetermined or caused it? Knowing something beforehand is not the same as causing it to happen.

- e) God foreknew that sin would exist, but God did not originate or orchestrate sin. He did not will sin to be. However, even though God did not plan or originate sin, He did graciously plan to deal with _____ through the gospel. James 1:13, Revelation 13:8
 - f) If you are a believer, God already knew you were going to belong to Christ, and therefore in eternity past, before time began, He graciously included you in His eternal _____.
 - g) The fact that you would be conformed to the image of Christ was planned according to His foreknowledge; it was not a _____ choice made without knowledge of the future. John 17:24
- b. Romans 8:29b – God says *those whom He foreknew these he also predestined*... The word *predestined* (PROORIZÓ) is a compound word derived from PRO, meaning beforehand, and HORIZO, meaning to declare, determine or _____ boundaries.
- 1) It is important to understand that the Bible does not use the word predestination to determine who will or will not be saved.
 - 2) As mentioned before, predestination is _____ on God's omniscient foreknowledge. Predestination is not an arbitrary, ignorant-of-the-future decision God made randomly in eternity past.
 - 3) From before the very beginning and armed with all the _____, God predetermined certain things. Everything God predestined in the past has and/or will happen without fail, just as He planned.
 - 4) Predestination was used in reference to Christ's _____. In Acts 4:27-28, the word *predestine* is used to show how God orchestrated everything concerning Christ's death, so that it occurred exactly as He determined beforehand. 1 Peter 1:19-20
 - 5) In 1 Corinthians 2:7, predestination is used to describe the illumination of truth. *...but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden _____ which God predestined before the ages to our glory.* God predestined for believers in the Church Age to have greater understanding of His plan.
 - 6) In Ephesians 1:5, speaking of our adoption as sons, which is part of our future glorification, Paul said, "*He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.*" God predestined that all believers would be adopted as _____.
 - 7) In Ephesians 1:11, speaking of our inheritance, which is another part of our future glorification, Paul said, "*Also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His _____.*" All believers have been predestined to receive an inheritance.

- c. Romans 8:29c – *He also predestined [these] to become conformed to the image of His Son...* This speaks of God's ultimate _____ of making believers like Christ, which He is working out daily through our sanctification process and will ultimately accomplish in our glorification in eternity.
- d. Romans 8:29d – *...so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren...* God planned to conform all believers to the image of Christ. Just as you were born bearing the image of Adam, you were born _____ with the plan that in eternity you would fully bear the image of God's Son, Jesus Christ. John 1:12, 3:3; Romans 2:29
- e. Romans 8:30a – *...these He also called...* Believers are those who have responded to God's _____. Every person in Christ is God's child in response to faith in God's gospel call. 1 Corinthians 1:24
- 1) We were called out of darkness into God's _____. 1 Peter 2:9 says, "*...of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*"
 - 2) We were called through the gospel. 1 Timothy 6:12 says, "*It was for this He called you through our _____, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*" Romans 1:6, 2 Thessalonians 2:14
 - 3) We were called by the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ. Galatians 1:6 says, "*I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel.*"
 - 4) We are called His _____. 1 John 3:1 says, "*See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God.*" Romans 9:25-26
 - 5) We are called His _____. Romans 1:7 says, "*To all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints...*" 1 Corinthians 1:2, Jude 1:1
 - 6) We were called to His _____. 2 Timothy 1:9a says, "*Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling.*" 1 Thessalonians 5:24
 - 7) We were called to _____ His sufferings. 1 Peter 2:21 says, "*For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.*"
 - 8) We were called to belong to His kingdom and to experience His _____ forever. 1 Thessalonians 2:12 says, "*So that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.*" 1 Peter 5:10
 - 9) We were called to inherit a _____. 1 Peter 3:9 says, "*...not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.*"
 - 10) We were called to experience peace and _____ in the church as we patiently await His appearing. Colossians 3:15 says, "*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.*"
 - 11) These verses demonstrate why we as believers are titled the _____.

- f. Romans 8:30b – ...*these He also justified...* The justified here include only those who have _____ in Christ.
- 1) We were justified by _____. Romans 5:1 says, “*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*”
 - 2) We were justified freely by God’s _____. Romans 3:24 says, “*Being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.*” Titus 3:7
 - 3) We were justified apart from obeying the _____. Romans 3:28 says, “*For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.*”
 - 4) We were justified apart from doing good _____. Romans 4:4 says, “*But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness.*” Galatians 2:16, 3:11
 - 5) We were justified by God’s amazing _____. 1 Corinthians 6:11 says, “*Such were some of you; ...but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.*”
- g. Romans 8:30c – ...*these He also glorified...* We are not yet glorified, but the word glorified is in the _____ tense because God absolutely guarantees that we will be glorified. As far as God is concerned, it’s already a done deal. Romans 8:17

D. Romans 8:31-39 – Glorification tested and proven

1. Romans 8:31a – Paul’s question #1: In response to the fact that we are predestined, called, justified, and glorified, Paul asked, “*What then shall we say to these things?* The anticipated answer is, “_____! Thank you, Lord!”
2. Romans 8:31b – Paul’s question #2: Next Paul asked, “*If God be for us, who can be against us?*” The expected answer is of course, “No _____.” Since God Himself is advocating for us, no one can successfully oppose us.
3. Romans 8:32 – Paul’s question #3: Then he asked, “*He who did not spare His own Son but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?*” If God sent His most _____ treasure to purchase our freedom while we were still in our sins, wouldn’t it seem reasonable that He would care for our daily needs now that we are His children?
4. Romans 8:33 – Paul’s question #4: *Who will bring a charge against God’s _____?* Since God is the one who legally declared us righteous, there is no one who can successfully accuse us.
5. Romans 8:34 – Paul’s question #5: _____ *is the one who condemns?*
 - a. Romans 8:34a – *Christ Jesus is He who died.* It can’t be Christ who condemns us, because Christ died to _____ for our sins, not to condemn us. John 3:17
 - b. Romans 8:34b – *Yes, rather who was raised...* It can’t be Christ who condemns us, because God showed He was satisfied with Christ’s payment when He _____ Him from the dead.