

## "The Doctrine of Glorification"

## Romans 8:14-8:39

## Part 7

**Introduction:** Tonight, in our study of Romans we have come to one of the most wonderful verses in the Bible. There is no verse greater in the Word of God which speaks of the security which we have in Jesus Christ than the verse which is before us tonight. We could spend many weeks on this verse because of the richness found within it.

**Notice Romans 8:28**

This is the verse which we are going to look at tonight. Now we have been looking at the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer and we have used Romans 8:1 as a heading for the chapter. Romans 8:1 tells us there is therefore no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus. This is such a profound statement that Paul uses this entire chapter to show how this statement can be true. Here in the verse which we are about to look at tonight we find yet another reason why Romans 8:1 is true. It is because "The Holy Spirit WORKS ALL THINGS TOGETHER FOR OUR GOOD".

**I. The Illustration of Glorification****Romans 8:28-30****Part 1****Notice Romans 8:28 again.**

As we look at this verse the first point, we need to consider is WHO this verse pertains to. It pertains only to those who LOVE GOD. This is another name for believers. Let us notice a few verses:

**Nehemiah 1:5**

<sup>5</sup> *And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:*

**Psalm 97:10**

<sup>10</sup> *Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.*

**Psalm 145:20**

<sup>20</sup> *The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.*

**1 Corinthians 2:9**

<sup>9</sup> *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.*

**James 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> *Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*

**James 2:5**

<sup>5</sup> *Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?*

Just from these verses we can see that the title "THEM THAT LOVE HIM/GOD" refers to true believers. So, that means this verse does not apply to the unsaved person.

**Notice Romans 8:28 again.**

I want you to notice that the verse does not say, "ALL THINGS ARE GOOD", but the verse does say that "ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD". Notice the words of Zellers on this thought:

*"There are many ingredients that go in to making a cake, and many of these if taken by themselves are not good tasting (not everyone enjoys eating raw eggs, or flour or shortening, etc.) but if you put all of the ingredients together they all work together to make a great tasting cake (the end product). So God takes both the bitter and sweet, the hard and easy, the bad and the good, and works them all together for good."*

There are situations in life which we face that are bitter and bad in and of themselves. But God takes these situations and He works them together for our good. This is such a profound thought that Paul summarizes it with the Words of verse 31.

**Notice Romans 8:31**

Because of the sovereign control of God over our lives there is not one thing that can be against us. God is watching over our lives 24 hours a day.

The Psalmist says it very well in Psalm 121.

**Psalm 121:1-8**

*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.*

<sup>2</sup> *My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.*

<sup>3</sup> He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.

<sup>6</sup> The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Now we need to see the comprehensiveness of this verse.

**Notice Romans 8:28 again.**

Paul tells us that ALL THINGS work together for our good. This means EVERY situation we face in this life God overrides with His power to use it for good in our lives. I want to take some time and consider some of the "ALL THINGS" that God works together for our good. We know that GOOD things WORK TOGETHER for our good so I want to consider some things that we see as not so good.

### **1. Suffering**

God uses the suffering which we go through in this life as believers to work together for our good. Suffering is used in many ways to accomplish good within our lives.

#### **a. Suffering refines us.**

When we believers go through a time of suffering, we get a much better perspective of this world and the things of this world. So, in the suffering the dross comes to the top when it is much more visible and can then be scooped up and tossed away.

In Zechariah we see what God will do with the Nation of Israel in the Tribulation.

### **Zechariah 13:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

<sup>9</sup> And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Suffering helps us to see how unimportant the things of this world are, and they help us to see how important spiritual things Truly are.

**John 15:1-2**

*I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.*

<sup>2</sup> *Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.*

Let us notice what Jeremiah wrote concerning Moab:

**Jeremiah 48:11**

<sup>11</sup> *Moab hath been at ease from his youth, and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel, neither hath he gone into captivity: therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed.*

Moab had never been tested and so they had settled upon their lees. The lees were the dregs which were removed when wine was made. Dregs were used to make vinegar. The idea is that suffering in the life of the believer is to produce a sweetness as the dross and the dregs are removed.

**b. Suffering prepares us to minister to the needs of others.**

Let me first of all remind you of what the writer of Hebrews said concerning our Lord.

**Hebrews 2:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

<sup>10</sup> *For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

Jesus was perfect when He was born, and He became perfect through sufferings which means He became perfect in experience. Our Lord suffered while He lived on this earth so that He could identify with us in our sufferings.

**Hebrews 2:16-18**

<sup>16</sup> *For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.*

<sup>17</sup> *Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*

<sup>18</sup> For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

The word "succour" here means "to come to another's aid".

So, in the same way we too go through suffering so that we can relate to and minister to others who go through suffering.

### 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

<sup>4</sup> Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

<sup>5</sup> For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

#### c. Suffering turns our hearts toward God.

Notice what the Psalmist wrote in Psalm 119.

### Psalm 119:67-71

<sup>67</sup> Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.

<sup>68</sup> Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes.

<sup>69</sup> The proud have forged a lie against me: but I will keep thy precepts with my whole heart.

<sup>70</sup> Their heart is as fat as grease; but I delight in thy law.

<sup>71</sup> It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.

Let me show you the words of David as he fled from his own son Absalom.

### Psalm 63:1-2

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

<sup>2</sup> To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

When we enter into a season of suffering it turns our hearts to God and we desire to draw closer to Him.

#### d. Suffering reveals the true condition of our heart.

When suffering enters into a believer's life it will certainly reveal what is within the heart. It will reveal to us our true spiritual state. When suffering produces bitterness, we can be sure that the problem is within our hearts. It tells us that we are not fully surrendered and that the flesh still has control of our hearts.

Let me show you examples of people who were fully surrendered to the will of the Lord.

**Job was one such person.**

**Job 1:20-22**

*<sup>20</sup> Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped,*

*<sup>21</sup> And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.*

*<sup>22</sup> In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.*

**Job 13:15a**

*<sup>15</sup> Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him:*

**The Apostles were also men who were surrendered to the will of God.**

**2 Corinthians 4:8-11**

*<sup>8</sup> We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;*

*<sup>9</sup> Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;*

*<sup>10</sup> Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.*

*<sup>11</sup> For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.*

The Apostles suffered greatly for the cause of Christ and they accepted the suffering as the will of God.

**Conclusion:**

**Notice Romans 8:28 again.**

One of the clearest examples of this verse at work in a person's life would be Joseph. He was betrayed by his brothers, sold into slavery, falsely accused by Potiphar's wife, thrown into prison, forgotten in the prison, and then raised up to be the Prime Minister of Egypt.

All that happened in his life was not good, but it all worked together for his good. Many people's lives were saved because of what happened to him.

Let us keep in mind that God is more concerned about saving souls than He is making sure that we live a life of comfort.