

**"The Doctrine of Glorification"**

**Romans 8:14-8:39**

**Part 9**

**Introduction:** Two weeks ago, when we were in our study of Romans, we were looking at Romans 8:28. This verse is the greatest verse in the Bible which deals with the security of the believer.

**Notice Romans 8:28**

Now the last two studies we looked at the comprehensiveness of this verse. By that I mean that every situation and every circumstance is included within the word "ALL". Let me remind you that the verse does not say that ALL THINGS are good, but it says that ALL THINGS work together for good in the life of the believer. I point this out because not everything that we experience in life is good. But there is not one thing which happens in our lives, either good or bad, that God does not use for our good. In our previous study we considered three not so obvious things that work together for our good.

1. **Suffering**
2. **Sin**
3. **Everyday problems**

We know that good things work together for our good, but the comprehensiveness of this verse even includes the bad things. Now when I mention that even sin can be used for our good, we must understand that this does not mean that God approves of our sin, for He does not. With sin comes consequences that can follow a person the rest of their lives, and with sin comes chastening. But amid the consequences and the chastening hand of God the sin is still worked for the believer's good.

Remember that I gave you the illustration of the cake? There are many ingredients that go into a cake. There is flour, eggs, sugar, flavoring and so on. Many of these ingredients are not good to eat by themselves but when they are combined, and they are baked the end result is good. That is exactly what is meant in this verse. Some of the experiences of life are bitter and painful, but God has a way to blend them altogether so that the end result will be good for us.

Now one more reminder here before we move on. We must be very careful not to interpret this verse in a materialistic way. Let me share some of the words that we looked at the last time by an unnamed writer:

*As we have seen in Romans 5:3 - 4, God uses suffering to build Christian character in us, conform us to Christ, and prepare us for final glory. What he promises us in 8:28, then, is not that every difficult experience will lead to something good in this life. The "good" God may have in mind may involve the next life entirely. He may take us out of a secure, well-paying job in order to shake us out of a materialistic lifestyle that does not honor biblical priorities, and we may never have as good a job again. He may want to set us free from an engagement to be married because he wants to use us in a ministry that would be difficult or impossible for a married person. Remember that it is by sharing in Christ's sufferings that we eventually will be able to share in his glory as well (8:17).*

Let us now get back to this verse again.

**I. The Illustration of Glorification**  
**Romans 8:28-30**  
**Part 3**

**Notice Romans 8:28 again.**

As we begin, I want us to look at how the believer is defined at the end of this verse. We already looked at how the believer is identified as "them that love God". Throughout the Bible believers are referred to this way.

**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?*

These are just a few of the verses that confirm "them that love God" are believers. But in Romans 8:28 there is yet another way in which believers are identified.

**"them who are the called according to his purpose"** - Here we are referred to as the CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE. I want to consider two points here.

**1. The called**

This is a reference to the church or the body of Jesus Christ. We who are saved have all been called by God. We have been called out of the darkness and into the light. Now some people teach that God only calls those whom He has chosen. They teach that only the ELECT are called.

The Bible teaches that there is a general call where all men are invited to come to Jesus Christ.

**John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**Romans 10:13**

<sup>13</sup> For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**Matthew 11:28**

<sup>28</sup> Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

**Revelation 22:17**

<sup>17</sup> And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

The offer of salvation is to every person for Jesus Christ died to pay the sin debt for all of mankind.

**1 John 2:1-2**

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

<sup>2</sup> And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

It is God's will that all mankind would be saved.

**1 Timothy 2:1-4**

*I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;*

<sup>2</sup> *For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.*

<sup>3</sup> *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;*

<sup>4</sup> **Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.**

## **2 Peter 3:9**

<sup>9</sup> *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.***

In all of these verses we can clearly see that salvation is for all men and whosoever will may come to Christ and God desires that all men repent and be saved and there is a general calling that is issued to all mankind. So, then the question here is why is the church referred to as the called?

The church is made up of individuals who have been called and have responded to the call. Many people have heard the call but not everyone comes to Jesus Christ. Many would rather live in sin than come to Jesus Christ.

## **John 3:18-21**

<sup>18</sup> *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

<sup>19</sup> *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, **and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.***

<sup>20</sup> *For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, **neither cometh to the light,** lest his deeds should be reprov'd.*

<sup>21</sup> *But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

God has given to man a free will and so when he hears the Gospel it is man's responsibility to repent and come to Jesus Christ. There is another verse that I want to bring in here.

## **John 6:44**

<sup>44</sup> No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

With this verse we must incorporate man's free will and then we can understand that only those whom the Father draws can be saved, and since it is God's will for all to be saved then God draws many people, but they still must submit to the calling. There have been many people who have come under the conviction of the Spirit as they have been drawn by God, but when they heard the Gospel, in their own free will they walked away.

Getting back to the "CALLED" it is a reference to the church. The word "CHURCH" means "called out ones". There is another point which we need to see here.

## 2. His purpose.

*"them who are the called according to his purpose"*

We who are saved, are the called according to His/God's purpose. This then raises a question, "What is God's purpose?" The purpose of God is referred to in several other passages.

### Ephesians 1:9

<sup>9</sup> *Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:*

In this verse we see that the mystery of God's will and His purpose are connected. Paul then defines both in Ephesians 3.

Ephesians 3:3-

<sup>3</sup> *How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,*

<sup>4</sup> *Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)*

<sup>5</sup> *Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;*

<sup>6</sup> *That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:*

<sup>9</sup> *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:*

<sup>10</sup> *To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,*

<sup>11</sup> According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

The mystery was that Jew and Gentile would both be members of the body of Jesus Christ. The eternal purpose of God was that before the foundation of the world He determined that there would be a church/bride for His Son.

## **2 Timothy 2:9**

<sup>9</sup> Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

So, before the foundation of the world God purposed that He would call out a bride for His Son. Therefore, we are the CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.

## **Notice Romans 8:29**

God foreknew the body of Jesus Christ and He predestined that all who would accept Jesus Christ would be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ.

## **Conclusion:**

We will come back to this next week. But as we close out tonight let us understand that we who are believers are being conformed into the image of Jesus Christ as we pass through this world. God works all things together to accomplish this. He purges and prunes us through the circumstances of our lives.

## **Ephesians 1:18**

<sup>18</sup> The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

We are God's inheritance and we are the riches of His glory. He therefore is going to work in our lives to sanctify us and make us more and more like His Son. The more of Jesus Christ is seen in us the more He is glorified.

## **Philippians 1:6**

<sup>6</sup> Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: