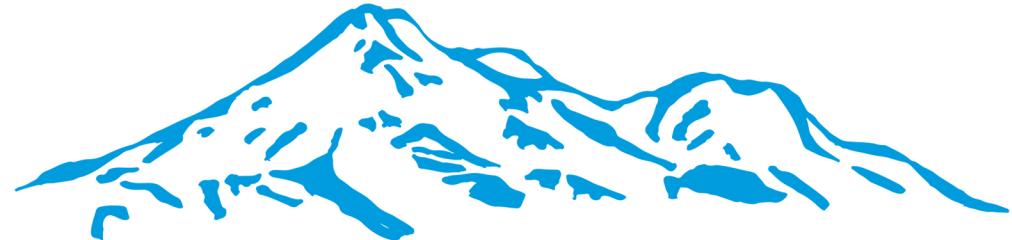


Questions

1. Why do you think it's important that the promise in v.28 is something "we know" vs "feel" or "understand"? How can understanding this help you when you're encouraging someone with this promise?
2. What are biblical accounts we can lean on to affirm the promise of v.28?
3. Why is it important to understand that the promise of v.28 is for Christians? How is it wrong to apply it to unbelievers?
4. How does v.29 help us understand what "the good" that God wants for his children is? Why is that the ultimate good that God is working all things together for?
5. How should v.28 encourage you as you face suffering and your own struggle against sin?
6. How should the "Gold Chain of Salvation" give you confidence in your suffering and your own struggle against sin?
7. How should it encourage you, that in the mind of God, your glorification is as good as done (v.30)?



THE BIBLE'S SUMMIT

— A Sermon Series on Romans 8 —

All Things For Good

Romans 8:28-30

Stuart McCray, Associate Pastor

March 26, 2023

Romans 8:28-30 provides 2 rock-solid truths to assure you that your suffering does not thwart your ultimate salvation, rather it is what God uses to accomplish it.

Present suffering is not worth comparing with future glory. (v.18)

Paul argues to that end in four ways:

1. Creation longs for the glorification of God's children. (vv.19-22)
2. Our own eagerness for the redemption of our bodies. (vv.23-25)
3. The Spirit has our future glory in mind as He intercedes for us. (vv.26-27)
4. God works all things together for our ultimate good. (vv.28-30)

1) God's Good Providence (v.28-29)

The ESV is very literal to the original language, where it implies that God is the One who works all things together. (Note the NASB or NIV)

The Greek word for "work together" is synergeo; it's where we get our word synergy. God is causing a synergy to occur in all things.

The God who works together all things is:

1. All Loving.
2. All Knowing.
3. All Powerful.

The promise that all things together for good, is for Christians; for those who love God and for those who are called according to His purpose.

The reason why God works all things together for the good of His people is, "**for** those whom He foreknew He also predestined..."

Ultimately, in your Father's eyes, the good that He's working is your conformity to the image of His Son.

God's foreknowledge is His sovereign determination to set His personal covenant love on individuals, not based on anything they will or won't do, but based solely on His choice to forelove them.

Predestination is God's activity before the foundation of the world to choose a people whom He will save and conform into the image of His Son.

2) God's Unbreakable Salvation (vv.29a, 30)

This string of God's saving activity (29a, 30) has long been coined, The Golden Chain of Salvation. Each "he also" forges a link in the chain where one saving action of God assuredly produces the next. Each "he also" is a promise of God to finish what He started.

What we ostensibly see in v.29a, 30 is the order of salvation.

Step 1: God's foreknowledge of His people. This leads to...

Step 2: God's predestination of His people. This leads to...

Step 3: God's calling of His people. This leads to...

Step 4: God's justification of His people. This leads to...

Step 5: God's glorification of His people.