



The Unshakeable Promise of Romans 8:28

Romans 8:28

I. The Certainty of the Promise (v. 28a)

- A. This is not _____ — It is settled truth
(2 Tim. 1:12; Job 19:35; 1 Jn. 5:13)
- B. This certainty is _____ in the
character and Word of God
(Num. 23:19; Mal. 3:6; Isa. 46:10)

II. The Condition of the Promise (v. 28b)

- A. This promise is not universal — it is _____
(Deut. 7:7-9; Psa. 34:15; Jn. 10:27-28; Eph. 1:4-5;
1 Pet. 2:9)
- B. This describes _____ believers — not perfect
believers (Mk. 9:24; Psa. 73:17; Jn. 21:17)
- C. Love for God is _____ of regeneration
(1 Jn. 4:19; Ezek. 36:26; Rom. 5:5)

III. The Comprehensive Scope of the Promise (v. 28c)

- A. “All things” includes _____ joy and suffering
(Rom. 8:39; 1 Cor. 3:21-22; 2 Cor. 4:15)
- B. God’s sovereign _____ of every
detail (Psa. 25:10; Deut. 8:15-16; Acts 20:32; 1 Tim. 4:5;
Rom. 1:12; 2 Cor. 1:24; Heb. 10:24)

C. Not all things are good — but all things are _____ for
good

- 1. God uses _____ as a means of
bringing good (Rom. 5:3-4; Jms. 1:2-4; 1 Pet. 1:6-7;
Gen. 50:20; Job 42:5-6; 2 Cor. 12:8-9)
- 2. God uses _____ as a means of bringing
good
 - a) Temptation drives us to _____ on
God (Matt. 26:41; Heb. 4:15-16)
 - b) Temptation drives us to the _____ of God
(Psa. 119:11; Matt. 4:1-10)
 - c) Temptation exposes and destroys spiritual
_____ (2 Cor. 12:9)
 - d) Temptation drives us to Christ — our
_____ savior (Heb. 4:15; Phil. 1:21-24)
- 3. God uses the evil of _____ as a means of bringing
good
 - a) God does not approve sin — He
_____ it (Jms. 1:13; Gen. 50:20)
 - b) God uses the sins of _____ to
work for our good (Rom. 2:1-3; Rom. 7:1-2)
 - c) God uses even our _____ sin to work for our
good (Rom. 8:1; Heb. 12:10; Psa. 32, 51)
 - d) God uses sin to _____ humility
and holiness (1 Cor. 15:10)
 - e) The believer’s good is _____ by
God — not by us (1 Pet. 5:10)
 - f) Sin was _____ for the
cross to come about (Acts 2:23; 4:27-28)

IV. The Calling Behind the Promise (v. 28d)

- A. This is the _____ call of God — His initiating grace (Rom. 8:30; Jn. 6:44; 2 Tim. 1:9)
- B. God's _____ is the foundation of everything (Eph. 1:11; Isa. 14:27; Prov. 19:21)
- C. Salvation and suffering are both tied to divine _____ (Rom. 8:29; 1 Pet. 1:6-7; Gen. 50:20)
- D. Assurance is rooted in God's _____ plan — not human effort (Rom. 8:30; Jn. 10:28-29; Phil. 1:6)

TAKE HOME:

- What in your life right now feels like the “_____ of the canvas”?
- Is your relationship with God marked by _____ love—or just religious familiarity?
- What are you _____ your life to in suffering?

Application Questions

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message in your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others.

1. What part of your life right now feels like the “underside of the canvas,” making it hard to trust God is working wisely? (Rom. 8:28)

2. Are you anchoring your confidence in your circumstances—or in God’s unchanging character and Word? (Num. 23:19; Mal. 3:6; Isa. 46:10)
3. Does your life show real love for God (not perfection, but genuine affection and allegiance to Him)? (Jn. 21:17; Mk. 9:24)
4. Have you considered that loving God is evidence of a changed heart, not something you manufacture naturally? (1 Jn. 4:19; Ezek. 36:26)
5. In hardship, are you viewing “good” as comfort now—or as God shaping you into Christlikeness over time? (Rom. 8:29; 1 Pet. 5:10)
6. When suffering hits, are you responding in a way that lets God produce endurance, character, and hope in you? (Rom. 5:3–4; Jas. 1:2–4)
7. When tempted, do you actively run to prayer and Scripture for help rather than relying on willpower alone? (Matt. 26:41; Matt. 4:1–10)
8. When you fail, do you return to Christ in repentance—trusting there is no condemnation for you in Him and receiving God’s fatherly discipline as love? (Rom. 8:1; Heb. 12:10)

“No matter what our situation, our suffering, or persecution, our sinful failure, our pain, our lack of faith—in those things, as well as in all other things, our heavenly Father will work to produce our ultimate victory and blessing.”

- John MacArthur