

VIII

All Things for Good

ROMANS 8:28–30

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

READ | ROMANS 8:28–30

THINK ABOUT

Verse 28 is one of the best-loved and most quoted of all Scriptures. Make sure you understand the context of the preceding verses dealing with the perplexing subject of suffering.

In verses 17–25, Paul explains that present suffering is insignificant compared with future glory. In verses 26–27, Paul encourages us to endure suffering because of the intercession of the Holy Spirit.

Followers of Jesus can endure present suffering because God is working all things for our good (v. 28)! God is accomplishing His eternal goal for us in conforming us to the image of His Son (v. 29). This is our final salvation.

Note the five links in the golden chain:

- **Foreknowledge**
- **Predestination**
- **Calling**
- **Justification**
- **Glorification**

APPLY

Once we understand the context of the magnificent verse 28, we can apply its truth in different circumstances of life.

We tend to be very short-sighted, self-focused, and self-pitying. In this hope of the Gospel, Paul reminds us to think of the ultimate goal — our salvation. We shall be like Jesus.

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ASK

Has anyone quoted Romans 8:28 to you rather glibly or in a way which you did not appreciate? When is it appropriate to remind someone of its truth?

The five links in the golden chain of salvation are rich (and sometimes controversial) theology. While we may not understand all of these truths, don't they provide tremendous security? Paul mentions justification and glorification, but why does he leave out our present sanctification?

PRAY

Praise God that He is working all things for your good.

Thank God also for the eternal security in Christ.

Ask God to help you to become more and more like Jesus.



“Your Love Never Fails” — *Skinner & McClarney*

“ALL THINGS FOR GOOD”

Romans 8:28–30

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