

- Fourfold list of Christ's accomplishments: Died, Raised, Ascended/Exalted, Interceding. **"second golden chain"**

2. No Separation – because of Christ's Love (8:35-39)

a) Love of Christ (8:35-36)

- The closing emphasis on love recalls Rom. 5:5 *"God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit"*

"God's love for us is not simply an 'emotion' but his gracious action on our behalf." ~ Doug Moo

- The list of what cannot separate us is similar to Paul's own troubles recounted in 2 Cor. 11:26-27, 12:10; and also 2 Chron. 6:28, 20:9.
- Paul quotes Ps. 44:22

"...it is no new thing for the Lord to permit his saints to be undeservedly exposed to the cruelty of the ungodly." ~ J. Calvin [see also 1 Pt. 4:12-13]

b) Love of God in Christ (8:37-39)

- "More than conquerors" – translation goes back to Geneva Bible; literally "hyper-conqueror".

"Believers not only 'conquer' such adversities; under the providential hand of God, they even work toward our 'good' (v. 28)." ~ Douglas Moo

- Eternal Security: "even the believer [is] within the scope of those things that cannot separate us from Christ" ~ Douglas Moo

Schedule:

- Feb 16 – Begin Romans 9

Previous Handouts

- Online: www.theheightschurchmn.org/adult-sunday-school; see also:
- www.desiringgod.org/labs/predestined-called-justified-glorified

Credits:

Main sources for outline and shared quotes are:

- *Epistle to The Romans (NICNT)* by Douglas Moo [Eerdmans, 1996]
- *Romans (IVPNTC)* by Grant Osborne [IVP, 2004]
- *The Epistle to the Romans*, by John Murray [Westminster, 2022]
- *Romans (St. Andrew's Exp. Comm.)* by R.C. Sproul [Crossway, 2009]

III. The Assurance Provided by the Gospel: The Hope of Salvation (5:1-8:39)

E. Assurance of Eternal Life in the Spirit (8:1-30)

2. New Hope of Glory in the Spirit (8:18-30)

a) **The Theme:** *Suffering leads to glory.* (8:17b-18)

b-d) **The Groaning of Creation, Christian & the Spirit:** (8:19-27)

e) **Conclusion:** *God works all things together to bring about his purpose for us: perfect conformity to the glory of Christ.* (8:28-30)

(1) Promise – "All Things Work Together for Good"

(a) Content of the promise

- "Good" – is not necessarily in this life (already/not yet reality)
 - Not always what we want but what is best for us.
 - God even overturns evil actions of others, or our own sins – Gen. 50:20 - Joseph's saying "God meant it for good".
- "All things" – *"Not one detail works ultimately for evil to the people of God; in the end only good will be their lot."* - J. Murray.

(b) Recipients of the promise

- "For those who love God"

"...love to God is both the most elementary and the highest mark of being in the favour of God." ~ John Murray

- "For those who are called"
 - This is the effectual call, *"those who have been summoned not only outwardly but also inwardly by the Spirit"* - R.C. Sproul.

(2) Purpose- "According to His Purpose"

"[It] is the sovereign guidance of God that is presumed as the undergirding and directing force behind all the events of life." ~ Douglas Moo

- This is God's eternal purpose of mankind's redemption: 2 Tim. 1:9
- (3) **Plan – The Golden Chain of Salvation**
- "For" starts these two verses and shows they are "a continued confirmation" of why vs. 28 will prove true. God has a plan to *"realize in us 'the hope of glory.'"* D. Moo
- "Golden Chain:" 5 aspects of salvation inseparably *bound* together.
- "Those... and those" shows all who fit one description, are included in the next: all the *predestined* are *called* are *justified* are *glorified*.

(a) Foreknown

- The object of the verb is “whom” – people are what is known.
- *Known* before – “knowledge” in a rich, Biblical sense. Two aspects:
 - Cognition/intellectual awareness – *Rom. 1: 21 world knew God*
 - Personal, spiritual or redemptive knowledge – *1 Cor. 1:21 world did not know God*

“Many times in Scripture ‘know’ has a pregnant meaning which goes beyond that of mere cognition. It is used in a sense practically synonymous with ‘love’, to set regard upon, to know with peculiar interest, delight, affection, and action (cf. Amos 3:2; Hosea 13:5; Matt. 7:23).” ~ J. Murray

- Rom. 11:2 & 1 Pet. 1:20 use the same Greek terms as 8:29 and refer to a choosing not just knowing something will happen.

“It is not the foresight of difference but the foreknowledge that makes difference to exist... It is sovereign distinguishing love.” John Murray

(b) Predestined

Paul is here thinking not only of their final glorification but of their growing conformity to Christ here and now in suffering and in obedience.” Cranfield

- Both the final transformation of our body (Phil. 3:21) and our progressive spiritual growth (2 Cor. 3:18).
- The *good* of 8:28 is the *goal* of predestination: Christ’s glory v. 29b.

“...it is among many brethren that his preeminence appears. [and] carries with it the eminence that belongs to the children of God” ~ John Murray

(c) Called

- The inward call of the Gospel awakens our dead hearts to believe.
- God’s call creates life - Rom. 4:17; and it is not synonymous with the gospel invitation - 1 Cor. 1:18, 22-24.
- This must be so, since not all respond to God’s outward call, yet all who are “called” are justified and ultimately glorified.

(d) Justified

- Paul’s great theme of chapters 1-4, and touched on in chapter 5:1, 9.

(e) Glorified

- This is a future reality described in a past sense since this is “as good as done” for all God’s elect.

Paul has traced “*the divine plan of salvation from its fount in the love of God to its consummation in the glorification of the sons of God.*” J. Murray

F. The Believer’s Security Celebrated (8:31-39)

1. No Condemnation – because of Christ’s Atonement (8:31-34)

a) Gift of God’s Son (8:31-32)

- What shall we say? – this is a summary conclusion to all of ch. 1-8.
- God is for us – *on our behalf*, or *on our side*.

“God being ‘for us’ has its deepest demonstration in his giving his own Son for us, a demonstration that should leave us in no doubt about his commitment to be ‘for us’ right up to, and including, the end.” Doug Moo

- “Did not spare” looks back at Gen. 22:12, 16
- “Gave him up” looks back at Isa. 53:6, 12 (Greek OT)
- “Own” Son – emphasizes the love involved.
- “For us all” – all believers included, due to our sins (Rom. 4:25)

“Who delivered up Jesus to die? Not Judas, for money; not Pilate, for fear; not the Jews, for envy – but the Father, for love!” ~ Octavius Winslow

- Logical argument – *a fortiori* from greater to lesser.

“God’s love for his Son is the greatest obstacle to my salvation.... In other words, since he did the hardest thing—since he did not spare his own Son—therefore, it is certain that God will find it very easy to give us all things with him.” ~ John Piper

- “all things” are both present & future blessings – parallel with v. 28

“The greatest gift of the Father, the most precious donation given to us, was not things. It was not calling, nor justification, nor even glorification.... the unspeakable and incomparable gift is the giving up of his own Son. So great is that gift, so marvelous are its implications, so far-reaching... that all graces of lesser proportion are certain of free bestowment.” ~ John Murray

b) Victory in Christ (8:33-34)

- Judicial images here – *charge against, condemn, victors*
- The God who elects is the God who justifies
- Fourfold list of Christ’s accomplishments: Died, Raised, Ascended/Exalted, Interceding. “**second golden chain**”