

More than Conquerors!

(The Greatest Chapter: ROMANS EIGHT)

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, August 13/14, 2016 Ray Davis

“An Astounding Promise” Romans 8:28-30

There is a joy in God that the worst kind of suffering cannot destroy (John16:22; 1Pet1:8; 1John1:4). It's not the suffering that destroys us it's the self-pity, bitterness and hopelessness that destroys us. The opposite of joy is not sadness but hopelessness. As Christians we are sorrowful yet always rejoicing (2Cor6:10). The joy God gives doesn't eliminate our sorrow, it overwhelms it.

An Astounding Promise:

1) My Bad Things Will Work Together For My Good. v28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Gen50:20; Job1:21, 2:10; Phil1:12)

“We Know” = Not just clear to the mind but real to the heart.

“All Things” = Positive or negative, painful or pleasurable.

“Work Together” = it is the sum total of all things that God is overruling, shaping and mastering. (Perfect love Lam3:21-23, Infinite Wisdom-Rom11:33 & Unlimited Power-Lam3:37-38)

“For Good” = v29 “Conformed to the image of His Son.”

“For Those” (2xs) = “who love God & are called according to His purpose.” (Jn14:21)

2) My Truly Good Things Can't Be Taken From Me. v29 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. v30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

“Foreknow” = God sets His love on us. (Gal4:9; 1Jn4:19; Matt.7:23; Acts 2:23; Rom11:2; 1Pet1:20)

“Predestined” = God plans a glorious future for us. (Eph1:4, 5, 11; Jer29:11)

“Called” = God invites us into that glorious future. (The called are people who love God v28; 1Thess1:4-5)

“Justified” = God declares us righteous in His sight and no longer liable for our sins because of Christ's work not ours. (Rom5:1; Rom8:1; 2Cor5:21) Along with justification is our adoption v29 “the firstborn among many brothers” and v15 we have received the spirit of adoption.

“Glorified” = God completes the plan in eternity.

3) My Best Things Are Yet To Come.

- There are greater levels of intimacy and maturity in Christ awaiting you in this life that are beyond your wildest dreams. (V29 to be conformed to the image of His Son; 2Cor3:18; Phil1:6; Pro4:18)
- Life in Glory with our Savior will heal all of our wounds and answer all of our questions and make everything sad come untrue and be all the more glorious for having once been lost as we live happily ever after. (v30 those whom He justified He also gloried; Rom8:17; 1Cor2:9; Rev21-22)

If you reject God's offer of love through Jesus Christ this life is as close to heaven as you will ever come. If you receive God's offer of love through Jesus Christ this life is as close to hell as you'll ever come. (Rom3:23, 5:8, 6:23, 10:9-10)

Growing Notes

- 1)** It is not the suffering in this fallen world that destroys us it's the self-pity, bitterness and hopelessness that destroys us. Explain. What does it mean that there is a joy in God that the worst kind of suffering cannot destroy (John16:22; 1Pet1:8; 1John1:4)? Have you ever experienced that joy? Explain.
- 2)** Read Romans 8:28-30. What stands out to you from this text? In what ways does a belief in the promise of v28 affect the way we face a) the good and, b) bad circumstances, and even c) the failures and sins of our lives? What does Paul say are the two conditions for receiving this promise? What does each term mean?
- 3)** How does vv29-30 explain what God's ultimate “purpose” in history is, and also what our ultimate “good” is in v28? List the five active verbs in vv29-30 that describe Believers? How should this give us assurance that our bad things will work for our good and our truly good things can't be taken from us?
- 4)** What are a Christian's two best things that are yet to come? How does this belief about your future help you in the present? The worst thing in life is not death but death without Christ (2Thess1:6-10; John 3:16; Rom3:23, 5:8; 6:23). Explain. What must a person do to receive the astounding promises of this study (Rom10:9-10)? Pray.