

## The Best Chapter in the Bible #9

Romans 8:28-30 Derek Thomas

### Outline:

1. Character of those to whom this promise is made
2. Comprehensiveness of this promise
3. Conquest envisioned by the promise
4. Confidence with which the promise is made

### Questions:

1. Make some general observations on that which the Spirit of God wrote through the pen of the apostle Paul in Romans 8:28... *“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”*
2. This is what John Piper wrote about the same verse, *“Once you walk through the door of love into the massive unshakeable structure of Romans 8:28, everything changes. There come into your life stability and depth and freedom. You simply can't be blown away anymore.”* Why would he say such a thing?
3. This is a common statement, *“It will all work out for the good.”* Derek Thomas said something different. He said, *“this promise [referring to God working all things together for good] is not for everyone.”* Who is right and why would he make such a statement?
4. Does this verse mean that only good things will happen for Christians? Explain.
5. Evaluate this statement, *“God is in charge of the big picture but He's not in charge of the little picture; He's not in charge of the little details.”*
6. Derek Thomas says, *“God can see into the future those who put their faith and trust in Jesus. He can see into the future those who decide for Jesus. Well, that's true, He can, but that's not what Paul is saying here.”* If that is not what Paul is saying in v.29, then what is he saying?
7. When it comes to our salvation, Derek Thomas says that nobody would pray like this, *“I just want to speak to myself for a minute. I want to thank myself for that extraordinary insight that I had — how insightful I was to put my faith in Jesus. It was all of my doing! ... Now when they stand up and talk all sorts of nonsense will come out, but in their hearts they understand that we are saved only because of God's sovereign, divine, monergistic activity.”* Define “monergistic.” What part does a person play in their salvation? Does a believer choose God, or not?
8. What are some of the things in your life that have been difficult to place under the umbrella of *“And we know...all things work together 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.* <sup>29</sup> *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.* <sup>30</sup> *And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*