Roamin' Thru Romans-Part 35

This morning, we will cover only one point of our outline on chapter 8:

Now let me remind you about Romans 8:

<u>Romans 8</u> may be divided into 13 major parts as follows:

- A. Condemnation (<u>Romans 8:1-4</u>)
- B. Carnality (Romans 8:5-8)
- C. Confirmation (<u>Romans 8:9-11</u>)
- D. Commitment (Romans 8:12, 13)
- E. Counsel (Romans 8:14)
- F. Children (<u>Romans 8:15-17</u>)
- G. Conflict (<u>Romans 8:17, 18</u>)
- H. Curse (Romans 8:19-23)
- I. Confidence (Romans 8:24, 25)
- J. Communion (Romans 8:26, 27)
- K. Control (Romans 8:28)
- L. Consummation (Romans 8:29, 30) (Today)
- M. Care (Romans 8:31-39)

Subject:

"Consummation"

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:28-31 (NKJV)

Key Verses: Romans 8:29

Introduction:

We have learned from our study of the book of Romans that many things occur regarding a person's salvation.

Some occur <u>before</u> he is saved, some at the <u>time</u> of his salvation, and some later in the <u>future</u>.

The moment a person is saved, he is <u>safe</u> for eternity, of course, but the *consummation* of salvation provides more than just what occurs in this lifetime.

I. **The Prescience of God** (Romans 8:29)

"Whom he did foreknow" (Romans 8:29).

If God is to be God, He will not only be omniscient (knows all things) but be prescient (knows all things before they happen).

Scripture gives us some examples of God's prescience—God spoke of the Persian ruler Cyrus, long before he was born (Isaiah 44:28).

Isaiah 44:24-28 (NKJV)

²⁴ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: "I *am* the LORD, who makes all *things*, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

²⁵ Who frustrates the signs of the babblers, And drives diviners mad; Who turns wise men backward, And makes their knowledge foolishness;

²⁶ Who confirms the word of His servant, And performs the counsel of His messengers; Who says to Jerusalem, 'You shall be inhabited,' To the cities of Judah, 'You shall be built,' And I will raise up her waste places;

²⁷ Who says to the deep, 'Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers';
²⁸ Who says of Cyrus, '*He is* My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid." '

• God spoke of Josiah, the king, three hundred years before he was born and, as with Cyrus, knew his name (I Kings 13:2).

1 Kings 13:2 (NKJV)

² Then he cried out against the altar by the word of the LORD, and said, "O altar, altar! Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, a child, Josiah by name, shall be born to the house of David; and on you he shall sacrifice the priests of the high places who burn incense on you, and men's bones shall be burned on you.' "

• In like manner, God *foreknew* who would be saved.

"The predication (preaching) of predestination on *foreknowledge* (Romans 8:29) does not cancel free will; most of Judaism accepted both God's sovereignty and human responsibility.

(The idea that one must choose between them is a post-New Testament idea based on Greek logic.)" --Bible Background Commentary - The IVP Bible Background Commentary - New

Testament.

Obviously, two schools of thought (theology) are commonly at play here: *Calvinism* vs *Arminianism* (Jacobus Arminius), a Dutch Reformed theologian who became involved in a highly publicized debate with his colleague Franciscus Gomarus, a rigid Calvinist, concerning the Calvinist interpretation of the divine decrees respecting "election" and reprobation. However, one must reckon also between "Sovereignty" and "Human Responsibility."

I personally believe that God must take the "initiative" (Sovereignty, calling, quickening) in one's salvation...

But I also believe in "acceptance or rejection" ("Human Responsibility") of salvation!

I cannot buy into such doctrines of "limited atonement" and "irresistible grace")!

II. **The Predestination by God** (Romans 8:29)

"He also did predestinate" (Romans 8:29).

Predestination says that God determines how things will be before they happen.

Before one gets caught up in the argument of free-will and predestination in salvation, he needs to emphasize what is written here about the work of predestination regarding salvation.

• *The conformation in predestination.* "To be conformed to the image of his Son" (Romans 8:29).

God designed that believers should be like Jesus.

This speaks, of course, not of outward appearance but of the inward condition and of character.

The emphasis here is not on predestination for heaven but on predestination for holiness.

By: **Ryan Rufus**, "I know that a lot of people try to use this verse (29) and the next verse (30) to talk about "predestination" and "election" and that God has "chosen" some FOR salvation but actually ...

When you understand the "context," the emphasis is so important!

The emphasis is not "who has God chosen, who hasn't God chosen, who are the special "elect" ones in God's cosmic, lucky draw, etc.

So, the emphasis is not on who has God "chosen" (to be saved) but the emphasis is on that God has "predestined" people to be *transformed* into the "image of His son!"

That is what God had "chosen" even before time had begun! That mankind would not try to relate to God through their own "righteousness" and through their own image.

But that mankind would "relate" to God THROUGH Christ!

It was always God's plan to send Jesus, even before time begun (even before Adam and Eve)!

1 Peter 1:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

Paul is not building a doctrine about who's "chosen" and who's not; Paul is building a doctrine about why we can have HOPE in this life because the Holy Spirit is the "first-fruits" in us!

We have this HOPe in us that according to God's predestination our "flesh" will ultimately be "transformed" to be "like Christ!"

What God has started in us He guarantees us that He will finish (preordained):

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV)

⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

Philippians 1:29 (NKJV)

²⁹ For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

There is a progression of HOPE here that is emphasized: not a doctrine of who is "chosen" beforehand by God but that God will complete what He has begun in us at His return!"

• *The glorification in predestination.* "*That he* [Jesus] *might be the firstborn among many brethren.*" (Romans 8:29).

The honor and glory of Jesus Christ is a major cause and reason for this *predestination*.

III. **The Purpose of God** (Romans 8:30)

"Whom he did predestinate, them he also called" (<u>Romans</u> 8:30).

This is the call to come to Christ for salvation. However, not everyone who is called obeys. *"Many are called, but few are chosen"* (Matthew 22:14) is the sad lament of the refusal of many to heed the Divine call to come to the Savior.

If you refuse the *call*, then you will not experience the *consummation* that follows in the rest of this verse.

IV. The Purity from God (Romans 8:30)

"Whom he called, them he also justified" (<u>Romans 8:30</u>).

Justification is when God declares one righteous.

Justification is associated with purity.

Salvation purifies the sinner.

Salvation cleanses the sinner from his sins so God can declare him righteous.

But if you do not heed the call, you will not be justified.

V. The Praise from God (Romans 8:30)

"Whom he justified, them he also glorified" (Romans 8:30).

Many people want the praise of God without the *calling* and *justification*.

But praise comes only to those who have <u>accepted the call</u> and have been cleansed of sin and *justified* by God.

Unless the soul has come to the cross for cleansing of sin, there will not be glorification.

EXTRA ILLUS: If God has already "chosen" who will be saved beforehand, why did Jesus send out His disciples to be witnesses?

Why did He give them (and us by extension) The Great Commission (Matt. 28:20)?

Conclusion:

The prospects of the redeemed are glorious indeed.

Though we may walk a humble and despised life here on earth, the day is coming when God will glorify the saint—a glorification which will last for eternity.

Closing: So, we will stop here for today!

Do you know this Jesus that the Book of Romans so clearly teaches us about?

Do you have the Holy Spirit living inside you?

Are you dying daily to the Holy Spirit and walking "spiritual"?

If not, will you accept Him today?

*Beach, B. MBE, 7/14/24 a.m. WHBC, Dalton

*This outline borrowed from: *Analytical Bible Expositor – Romans*. Other portions of this sermon were taken from various sources and commentaries.