

God's Unstoppable Plan

Text: Romans 8:26-30

Context - Paul has taken us through Justification in Romans 3:21-5:21, Sanctification in 6:1-8:11, and now Glorification in Romans 8:12-39.

To better understand God's unstoppable plan...

I. _____ the Spirit's help in your weakness (vs. 26-27)

- A. "You and I cannot live the Christian life apart from the Holy Spirit who indwells us. We just can't do it, we're too weak in and of ourselves... The Holy Spirit Himself personally, individually, directly intercedes for us." (John MacArthur, *The Deep Groanings of the Spirit*)

II. _____ God's purpose in all things (vs. 28)

- A. "God's promise in Romans 8:28 is that no pain is wasted, no tear is lost, for He works all things for the good of His called ones." (J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*)

III. _____ the secure chain of redemption (vs. 29-30)

- A. **Foreknew:** refers to God's intimate, loving, sovereign, and relational knowledge of individuals before the foundation of the world.
- B. **Predestined:** God's sovereign decision, made before time, to choose individuals for salvation and to conform them to the image of Christ, according to His will and purpose. (The debate comes from how God makes His choice.)
- C. **Called:** God's effectual invitation through the gospel, by the Holy Spirit, that draws the predestined to faith in Christ, ensuring their response. (See Romans 8:28; 2 Thessalonians 2:14)
- D. **Justified:** God's legal declaration that a believer is righteous before Him, based on Christ's atoning work, forgiving their sins and imputing Christ's righteousness.
- E. **Glorified:** God's ultimate transformation of believers, fully conforming them to Christ's likeness in eternity, with resurrected bodies free from sin and death.
- F. "This reveals God's unbreakable purpose: those He foreknew, He predestined, called, justified, and will glorify, without losing a single one." (R.C. Sproul, *Chosen by God*)