

- Last week we learned why we can handle suffering.
- But bad things still happen to us.
- This brings us to the Pinnacle of the Book – Vs 28 Familiar with it?
28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
- Doesn't say all things are good. **God works the bad things we go through for what He calls "good".**
- He doesn't do this for everyone. **TWO Criteria:**
 - Those who love Him.
 - Those who have been called according to His purposes.

In other words, be encouraged that even when bad things happen, God is using it to bring about what He ultimately wants. What's that?

- What's God after? What's His purpose for us? **He's a father who wants lots of sons and daughters who will love Him with all their hearts.**
- **So now, Paul walks through this process of this purpose in us.** This process is known as sanctification.
29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- **Foreknew** not about knowing who's going to hell. Doesn't say "Foresee"
- Does just see you, He foreknew everything there was to know about you as a person before the foundation of the earth. **And he love you!**
- **For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.**
- **Predestination has nothing to do with determining who will go to hell.** Predestination has to do with believers. **THIS IS ALL ABOUT BELIEVERS**
- **This is simply telling us that God has selected before hand the goal toward which he is going to move those who believe in Christ.**
- God pre-planned the process of your gradual glorification. Sanctification.

God is changing who you are, your character, what you love, making you holy, making you compassionate, more like Christ. He predestined that process. ***30 And those he predestined, he also called;***

- Up until now this has been what God knows in His mind and what His plan is. **Now those foreknown and predestined are called.**
- **We are involved now. God draws the person. We naturally run away. God draws us. He calls us into this relationship as a son or daughter having full knowledge of who we are and a predestined plan for making us like Christ.**
- **We will get into how this and freewill work out next week.**
those he called, he also justified; Gave us Christ's righteousness so it would be just and ok for God to accept us.

those he justified, he also glorified. Glorified written as though it's already happened. **Our glorification is already happening.** Change.

- Notice **none lost** in this process. All that God foreknew end up glorified. **100% success rate.** Because God does it.
- **God does what He has to do to complete the process from foreknown to glorified.**
- 31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things?***
 - **Great question. How do you respond to that reality? Paul gives the answer to the question. If God is for us, who can be against us?**
 - **Our fear is the bad things we go through will stop this process Paul described of God bringing about His purpose in us which ended with "he also glorified".**
 - **Paul says you don't have to be afraid of that. Here's why!**
32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?
 - **How do you love God?** Our love for God comes from experiencing His incredible love for us. He didn't spare His own Son.
 - 1. By not being afraid because you know God loves you and won't spare anything protect to you on this journey to glorification.**
 - 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.***
 - 2. By trusting the effect of His justifying work on our behalf.**
 - Only one judge who can condemn us and He died on the cross so we wouldn't be condemned so there's no way in the world He's going to.
 - 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."*** ← Doesn't get worse!
If you've fully come to Christ can anything pull you away from Him?
Here's Paul's answer:
37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. WHY? Because they don't drive us away from God, but toward Him because He's the one we know loves us and we love Him back. These bad things are a part of the process from foreknown to glorified. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. In other words, Nothing anywhere on earth or in heaven.
 - **When bad things happen, some people turn away from God because they think God doesn't love them. That's not how the Son or Daughter of God thinks. It drives us to Him. Paul is assuring you that nothing, not even YOU can separate yourself from the love of Christ.**