

Can't Lose!!

Romans 8:28

Sermon Outline

A. Incredible Reality (vs. 28a):

1. And we know – We can have a full spiritual understanding of God's Word as we apply it to day to day experiences. These experiences can cause us to develop a full understanding of who Christ is.
 - a) Verse 28-30 discusses God's eternal purpose, verses 31-34 discusses God's defense for those whom He loves, and verse 35-39 discusses God's triumphant love. All of this is attached to God growing us through sufferings (vs. 17-18);
 - b) Paul, because he has established that believers have the power to live for the glory of God now discusses our victory in Christ. So, this section of scripture is focused on a believers victory in Christ Jesus. This works because of the empowering work of the Spirit of God, Christ and Holy Spirit, and as a result of a believer committing to set their minds on things above, and not live according to the sin nature.
2. God causes – Paul mentions God here seemingly to express His comprehensive nature and creative ability. So, when Paul says 'all things' it is attached to God who is control of all things.
3. Work together – All things that we experience actively operates toward a particular goal, like two people cooperating so that with each other's help these individuals achieve their objective.
4. Work together – The Holy Spirit (vs. 26), God the Father (vs. 27-28), and God the Son (vs. 29) work together to make all circumstances a believer experience, achieves a particular goal.
5. Good – The Godhead working together causes a believer to experience what is beneficial for their lives. This empowers them to live a life that is pleasing to God.
 - a) The things themselves may not be good, but God harmonizes them together for believers' ultimate good, because His goal is to bring them to perfection in His presence (cf. Eph. 1:4; 5:27; Col. 1:22; Jude 24). Even adversities and afflictions contribute to that end. The active voice

present tense of the verb *synergei* (“He works together”) emphasizes that this is a continuing activity of God.

b) Many Christians misinterpret this verse, thinking that God here promises to give us all kinds of “good” things: jobs, money, health, and so on. But, as the context makes clear, “good” is primarily the glory God will one day enable us to share with Christ, our Lord. In the Old Testament, “good” sometimes has a similar focus, denoting the blessings of the age to come.^[1]

B. No Doubt..... (vs. 28b):

1. Those who love God – Christian love has God for its primary object, and expresses itself first of all in implicit obedience to His commandments, (John 14:15,21,23; 15:10; 1John 2:5; 5:3; 2 John 6).
2. Those who love God – Loving one another is to continuously demonstrate compassion, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, for the needs of each other no matter the sacrifice or commitment it demands. It is not talk; it is love in action (1 John 3:18).
3. Those who love God – These are believers who willfully decided to love God with all their heart under the direction and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.
4. Those who love God - This is a believer who purposefully and willfully obey God because they sincerely respect His supremacy over all things.
5. Those who love God – Those who love God, John says, are those who have come to truly experience the work of God in their lives (1 John 2:3-6).
6. Called - Things work out for God, only to those who have sincerely accepted God’s invitation to accept Him as their Savior.
 - a) “Called” means more than being invited to receive Christ; it means to be summoned to and given salvation (cf. Rom. 1:6; 8:30).^[2]
 - b) The call and election are put side by side in II Thess. 2:13, 14; II Pet 1:10. The call may be focused upon the eternal destiny (II Thess. 2:14) or on the earthly life of freedom and holiness (Gal 5:13; I Thess. 4:7).^[3]
7. Called according – God’s divine call on a believer’s life is always based on God’s will.
8. Purpose – God’s divine decision to invite each person to experience His divine nature is directed by His particular design for their life.

- a) The believer never needs to faint in times of suffering and trial because he knows that God is at work in the world (Rom. 8:28), and that He has a perfect plan (Rom. 8:29). God has two purposes in that plan: our good and His glory. Ultimately, He will make us like Jesus Christ! Best of all, God's plan is going to succeed! It started in eternity past when He chose us in Christ (Eph. 1:4–5).^[4]

^[1] Arnold, C. E. (2002). *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary: Romans to Philemon*. (Vol. 3, p. 51). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

^[2] Witmer, J. A. (1985). [Romans](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, pp. 473–474). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

^[3] Pfeiffer, C. F., & Harrison, E. F. (Eds.). (1962). *The Wycliffe Bible Commentary: New Testament* (Ro 8:28). Chicago: Moody Press.

^[4] Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *The Bible exposition commentary* (Vol. 1, p. 541). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.