

All Things Are Working For Our Good!

Introduction

Opening Illustration –

1. God is Righteous!
 - a. His just condemnation of all. Romans 1:1-3:20 Romans 1:18-21
 - b. His justification of believers. Romans 3:21-5:21 Romans 3:21-26
 - c. His sanctification of believers. Romans 6:1-8:13 Romans 6:1-4
 - d. His glorification of believers. Romans 8:14-8:39 Romans 8:16-17
2. Different Views of God's Relationship to Man. Romans 8:28-30
 - a. Individual Determinism
 - i. And we know that all things work together for good to those individuals who love God, to those individuals who are the chosen ones according to God's effectual working. For whom He chose, He made sure they would be conformed to the image of Christ so that Christ is first place among many brethren. Those individuals He chose according to His Sovereign will alone and without regard to any consideration of the individual. These individuals He effectively pursued by His irresistible grace, He also wiped away their sins, and secured a place in the heavens for them.
 - b. Corporate Election
 - i. And we know that all things work together for good to the people who love God, the church. These are the called according to His design. He previously determined that the church should be conformed to the image of Christ so that Christ would be the head of many brethren. Moreover the body He chose beforehand He invited into fellowship with Him. He forgive their sin and has granted them eternal life.
 - c. Individual Free Will
 - i. And we know that all things work together for good to those who choose to love God, to those who are faithful to His purpose in their life. For the individual whom God knew would believe, He chose them to be conformed to the image of His Son, that Christ might be the firstborn among many brethren. Those individual He chose based on His foreknowledge, these He also made sure they heard the good news; those who received His message, these He also justified or forgave their sins, and the same He will glorify.
 - d. God's Foreknowledge
 - i. Determination – For those He foreknew based on His previous choice.
 - ii. Perfect Estimation – For those He foreknew based on His perfect meticulous estimation.
 - iii. Middle Knowledge – For those He foreknew based on His ability to know every potential decision a person would make.
 - iv. Open Theism – For those He foreknew based on His plan to save the church.

- v. Classical View – For those He foreknew based on His perfect knowledge of all things.
3. God is Faithful!
- a. Historical Interpretation
 - i. And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For the Old Testament saints He knew before and purposed for them to be conformed to the image of His Son, that Jesus might be the firstborn among many brethren. His purpose for them has been demonstrated to us. We know that He invited them into a relationship; He provided a way of atonement; He was faithful to bring them into glory.
 - b. God is at work in me. Philippians 1:6
 - c. God's work is for our glorification. Philippians 3:20-21; Romans 8:18-30

Closing Illustration –

Closing Thought