

ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER...

INTRO.:

A. Text: Romans 8:28.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Chapter 8 has shown what God provided for man's salvation.
2. **Romans 8:28** continues to follow that thought.
 - 1) There are some who misunderstand.
 - 2) Some say... "God makes everything turn out for good. Nothing can go wrong for the Christian."
3. To properly understand the meaning, we should review the earlier verses of this chapter.
 - 1) Context is necessary in understanding scripture.
 - 2) Paul gives encouragement to those who were suffering for Christ.

DISCUSSION: IN THIS LESSON, WE OBSERVE...

I. WE KNOW.

A. By inspiration, Paul makes this declaration.

1. The Bible does not leave us guessing.
 - 1) **8:24-25** emphasizes our hope.
 - 2) **Luke 1:3-4**.
2. Our hope gives blessed assurances (**Heb. 6:11**).

B. Inspiration is about to make a declaration. Listen!

II. ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD.

A. All things.

1. Note: We understand that some things are not included.
 - 1) Sinful things never are good.
 - 2) **Pro. 14:34**.
 - 3) Good will EVENTUALLY come to the faithful!

B. Work together for good.

1. Bad things happen to everyone.
2. Paul speaks of the ultimate good the faithful will receive.
 - 1) **Rom. 8:18**.
 - 2) **1 Pet. 1:6**.
3. The saints suffered terrible persecutions.
4. Yet, heaven will be well worth the price.
 - 1) **2 Cor. 4:17**.
 - 2) **James 1:12**.
5. Christ's sufferings were horrible... BUT it worked out for our good.

C. All things are not good BUT they work together FOR good.

III. TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD.

A. Many suffer hardships in life.

1. The promise found in this verse is for those who love God.
2. What does that mean? Many say they love God...
3. Genuine love for God is seen in obedience!
 - 1) **John 14:15**.
 - 2) **John 14:21**.
 - 3) **1 John 5:3**.

B. Who were being persecuted? The obedient.

1. The Christian. Persecuted for the cause of Christ.
2. **1 Pet. 4:16.**

IV. AND ARE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.

A. Who are called.

1. Another way to describe a disciple of Christ.
 - 1) One who has obeyed the gospel of Christ. (Heard, believed and were baptized.)
2. How are men called? **BY the gospel.**
 - 1) **2 Thess. 2:13-15.**
 - 2) **1 Cor. 4:15.**

B. According to His purpose.

1. What is His purpose? --- To provide salvation!!!
 - 1) **PURPOSE** = a setting forth, that is, (figuratively) proposal (intention).
2. Always has been His plan.
 - 1) It was promised (**Gen. 3:15**).
 - 2) **Eph. 3:11.**
 - 3) **2 Tim. 1:9.**

V. CONCLUSION:

- A. This passage gives us encouragement and hope.**
- B. Hope is the anchor of the soul (Heb. 6:19).**
- C. This promise allows us to be faithful unto death.**