

**Duluth Bible Church All Believers' Conference**  
**"Three Certainties in the Christian Life" • Romans 8:26-34**  
**Pastor Matt Costella**

**Intro:** Consider the "big picture" of where we are in the book of Romans. Dr. Alva J. McClain has offered a good overview outline of chapters 1-8:

- Romans 1-3: The whole world condemned and lost in \_\_\_\_\_
- Romans 3-5: Condemned sinners are seen as justified if they \_\_\_\_\_
- Romans 6-7: The method of sanctification explained
- Romans 8: The reality of \_\_\_\_\_ and preservation of the believer established

In moving from salvation to glorification, there are a lot of uncertainties along the way in the life of a Christian. What are some uncertainties we face?

How can we know *anything* when there is so much we don't know? We find from God's Word that there are **certain** things we **can** know even though there are always going to be things we don't know. **We KNOW...**

**I. THAT IF YOU ARE A BELIEVER, THE TRIUNE GOD IS WORKING IN YOU AND FOR YOU (8:26-27)**

- A. The Believer's \_\_\_\_\_

1. We are \_\_\_\_\_ limited. Paul has already dealt with this reality in Romans 8. Yet also Consider 2 Corinthians 4:14-18:
  - a. Progressive sanctification (growing and maturing as believers) involves trials and tribulations in this life.
  - b. This affliction is \_\_\_\_\_ in duration.
  - c. Comparatively speaking, this affliction is “\_\_\_\_\_” compared to what we look forward to in the future.
2. We are \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ limited. Our infirmities lead us to need God’s help—to pray. Yet, at the same time, in these finite bodies, we don’t often know *how* to pray or *what to pray for* as we should.

B. God’s Unlimited \_\_\_\_\_—Despite our physical and intellectual weaknesses, all three members of the Godhead are working for us.

1. The work of the Holy Spirit (v. 26)
2. The work of God the Father (v. 27)
3. The work of God the Son (v. 34)

## II. THAT IF YOU ARE A BELIEVER, GOD IS WORKING EVERYTHING OUT FOR YOUR GOOD AND HIS GLORY (8:28-30).

- A. Life From a Believer’s Perspective (v. 28) — We can KNOW that everything that happens is ultimately for our good. Yet we have a choice: we can walk by sight or we can walk by faith.
1. A walk by \_\_\_\_\_

2. A walk by \_\_\_\_\_

a. "All things"

b. "Work together for good" — What does this mean/not mean?

B. \_\_\_\_\_ From God's Perspective (vv. 29-30)

1. God F \_\_\_\_\_

2. God P \_\_\_\_\_

3. God C \_\_\_\_\_

4. God J \_\_\_\_\_

5. God G \_\_\_\_\_

These verses reinforce the \_\_\_\_\_ that "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform (complete) it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6).

**III. THAT IF YOU ARE A BELIEVER, GOD HAS NOT ONLY SAVED YOU BUT WILL KEEP YOU SAFE AND SECURE UNTIL THE END (8:31-34).**

A. Paul's Four Rhetorical Questions:

1. "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Answer:

Why?

2. “Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s elect?”

Answer:

Why?

3. “Who is he that condemns?”

Answer:

Why?

4. “Who shall separate us from Christ and His love for us?”

B. God’s \_\_\_\_\_ Work

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of God the Father for us (v. 32)

2. Substitutionary atonement of Jesus (v. 32)

3. Justification by \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 33)

4. Resurrection of Jesus—a \_\_\_\_\_ Intercessor (v. 34)

5. Benefits to the believer:

a. All things provided for godliness (v. 32b)

b. Eternal \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

**Concl:** As we move forward in this life from salvation to glorification, there are many uncertainties from a human perspective, but we can KNOW and be sure that God is in us and working for us, that all things in this life work together for our good and God’s glory, and that we are assured of our salvation and eternal security. This is not due to our works or effort, but due to the work of all three members of the Godhead—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This should be a cause of rejoicing and encouragement for every believer, and a motivation to live faithfully for the glory of our great Creator and Redeemer.