

Romans 8:26-39

The Book of Romans reveals how mankind continues to feel the need to “do works” to be saved.

Romans Chapter 1 reveals the unrighteous of man, and shows how degraded man becomes when he rejects God. We see it in the news everyday – murders, rapes, school shootings, etc. When you take the sanctity of life (the bible and God) out of life, society degrades.

Romans Chapter 2 reveals how man becomes self-righteous in his behavior and attitude after rejecting God.

Romans Chapter 3 reveals what God thinks of man’s attitude in His written Word.

Romans Chapter 4 and 5 brings out two men in detail whom the Jewish people are very familiar with: King David and Abraham: Law and Grace. Paul uses these two characters to get the lesson across. The temple was in place, the law was enforced, and sacrifices were going on.

Romans Chapter 6 Paul is still reiterating some of the topics we just discussed, but it so important he must to make sure we understand the concept. We’re going to get into some interesting and controversial things soon.

Romans Chapter 7 should be read by every Christian. It means absolutely nothing to someone who is not saved. This chapter means so much to Christians. It answers many questions about the battle of our old nature and new nature. It explains why we keep sinning even though we don’t want to. It explains why we can never reach a perfect spiritual state while in human form. It gives encouragement in the form of knowledge why we keep doing things of the flesh even though we now know better as Christians.

Romans Chapter 8 is very unique. It brings you to a pinnacle point of God’s word. It is very deep. In the last part of this 8th chapter, there is an issue of predestination, election and freewill. We will not get deep into those concepts, but maybe in another lesson for a complete study of predestination, election, and freewill. Paul did not write about this issue to divide Christians, but to unite us. It should make every Christian so impressed with the program of God that they should get on their knees and praise the amazing program of God. Please look at this as much as you can from God’s point of view, not a human’s view. This will carry over into chapter 9. You will many questions, many that cannot be answered but we just need to accept the issue on faith, not reason.

Vs26-27: the Holy Spirit dwells within us, knows what we need, knows what God’s will is for our lives, and takes our prayers and puts into a proper context to present to God because we just don’t know how to do it. The Holy Spirit takes our prayers and forms it the way it should be presented to God.

Vs28: it doesn’t say all things are good in this verse. It says we are special chosen ones. It says He takes the combination of all the things in our lives - good and bad – and uses it for good. We are called according to His purpose. “Called” means “divine, elected, and calling”. All these bad things that

happen to you are going to be blended in with all the good things that happen to you and ultimately all be used for good for His ultimate glory through you and all Christians past, present, and future.

Vs29: 2 words in here people take an issue with: Foreknew means to know beforehand. Predestinate means to mark out beforehand, to determine before, or to foreordain. All Christians are foreordained – i.e., prepicked; by God. We will be conformed to the image of His son, Jesus Christ. Look at Romans 11:33-34: God has the right to do what He wants, when He wants, and how He wants to do it. God does not ask us our input or our opinion before He does something. He doesn't need to. He is sovereign. God does not think like us, and there is no way we can comprehend how God works. Just forget about it. Walk outside on a clear night and look at the stars, then try to comprehend God's way. It just goes on and on. God doesn't owe us anything. He gave it all to us. We gave Him nothing. God created the universe, and He has the right to pick and choose and do what He wants with any part of creation, including us. Being handpicked by God should humble any Christian. Look at Isaiah 46:9-10: Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; *I am* God, and there is none like me; 10 declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not *yet* done; saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure; Whether we like it or not or agree or not is totally immaterial. He's going to do what He wants to do when He wants to do it. Many say God is not being fair. We have no answer to why bad things happen to good people, but God takes all the bad and all the good and wraps it up for the good glory of Him through you. God is sovereign and He is going to do what He wants to do. We just need to learn God's word and accept at that. God does not need to reveal everything to us, and He doesn't. God's election, predestination, freewill: we will never understand these concepts in this lifetime. Just know that there is nobody that will be in the lake of fire that doesn't belong there. We can leave it at that. God is perfect, He never makes a mistake, and whoever winds up in the lake of fire or in heaven belongs there.

Here is a paragraph from the 1800's by William R. Newell. It shows how little we know about God and really how much faith we really need:

"Every system of theology undertakes to subject the words of God to categories and catalogs of the human intellect. Now, if you undertake to "reconcile" God's sovereign election with His free offer of salvation to all, you must sacrifice one truth or the other. Our poor minds may not "reconcile" them both, but our faith knows them both, and holds both, to be true! And Scripture is addressed to faith, not to reason."

Vs30: those He predestinated He also called. "Called" means that He called these individuals down to be glorified with Him for a special divine purpose. He justified them by knowing they were sinners but forgave them and cleansed them.

Vs31: If God has chosen us, and elected us, and glorified us, how can anyone be against us?

Vs32: we are going to participate in all glorified things with Christ.

Vs33: "elect" means to call out to love us, glorify us, and justify us.

Vs34: that's where Jesus Christ is today, at the right hand side of God, intervening for us. Satan has access, too and Satan is up there telling on us, all the bad things we do, but Jesus Christ says, "That's ok, put it on my ticket. I've taken care of it."

Vs35: nothing will be able to separate us from the love of Christ.

Vs36: lots of Christian prosecution is going on all around the world. Christians are arrested, tortured, and killed just for their belief in Jesus Christ.

Vs37: we are children of God.

Vs38-39: nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ. Here is our eternal security while on earth and after we die. Nothing at all can separate us from Jesus Christ, spiritual or physical. If you are a Christian, and have accepted Jesus Christ as your lord and savior, you are glorified. Why did He choose you or me? We have no idea, but He did, and we will see each other in heaven one day.