

**“The Golden Chain Of Salvation”**  
**Romans 8:29-30**

**Introduction:**

1. This Morning:
  - We Are Going To Resume Our Series Through Romans!
    - So - Please Head Back There With Me:
      - To Romans 8!
  - Where - The Last Verse We Looked At:
    - Was 8:28 - Where We Are Given:
      - One Of The Most Encouraging And Comforting Verses In All Of The Bible!
        - “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose!”
  - Here - We Find:
    - A Special Promise:
      - For A Special People:
        - Because Of A Special Purpose:
          - That Is - God’s Purpose!
    - And - This Is Something:
      - That All Of God’s People:
        - All True Believers In Christ:
          - Can “Know!”
        - And “Know” With:
          - The Utmost Confidence And Certainty!
2. But Then - We Come To:
  - Verses 29-30 - Which Are Intimately Connected:
    - To This Verse Of Comfort!
      - And We Find What Has Been Described As:
        - A “Golden Chain!”
          - Because - There Are Five Great Salvation Truths:
            - That Flows From One To Another:
              - And Are Linked Together Like A Chain!
  - Because - In The Same Breath:
    - As He Would Have Given Us 8:28 - He Adds:
      - 8:29-30 - “For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. /

Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified!”

  - Now - As We Start To Look More Closely:
    - At These Remarkable Words & Truths:
      - We Must Always Remember That What We Find Here Is:

**1. The Foundation Of Our Solace!**

- The “Golden Chain” That We Just Read In Verses 29-30:
  - Is The Foundation Of:
    - The Solace & Comfort We Are Given In Romans 8:28!
      - We Know This Because Of That First Little Word:
        - In 8:29 - “For!”
          - It Can Also Be Translated As:
            - “Because!”
- So - The Very Foundation & Reason:
  - That A Christian Can:
    - “Know That All Things Work Together For [Their] Good” - Is Because Of:
      - This “Golden Chain!”
  - You Can Know:
    - The Truth Of This Solace:
      - **Because Of** These Truths:

- About Your Salvation!
  - You Can Know:
    - The Truth Of This Comfort:
      - **Because Of** These Truths:
        - About Your Conversion!
  - That Is:
    - **You Can Know:**
      - In Verse 28:
        - Because **God Foreknew:**
          - In Verse 29!
- And So - The Apostle Paul:
  - Under The Inspiration Of The Holy Spirit:
    - Highlights In These Verses:
      - Just Who This Great Promise:
        - Is For!
  - In 8:28 - It Is For:
    - “Them Who Are The Called According To His Purpose!”
  - He Then Uses:
    - Verse 29 - To Help Us Understand:
      - What “His Purpose” Is:
        - All About!
  - And - He Uses:
    - Verse 30 - To Help Us Understand:
      - What “His Call” Is:
        - All About!
- So That - The Truths We Find:
  - In This “Golden Chain Of Salvation” Are:
    - Truths That Belong Exclusively To:
      - “Them That Love God!”
        - That Is - They Belong To You:
          - If You Believe In & Love The Lord Jesus Christ As Your Personal Savior!
  - And They Are:
    - The Very Foundation:
      - Of Your Comfort!
        - And - We Must Never Forget This - As We Move On And See:

## 2. ***The Foundation Of Our Salvation!***

- The Five Great Truths Of This “Golden Chain”:
- Are These:
  - Foreknowledge!
  - Predestination!
  - Calling!
  - Justification!
  - Glorification!
- Now - Before We Look At Them More Closely:
  - We Need To Observe A Few Things:
    - About Them!
- First Observation - Each Of These Truths:
  - Are Given To Us From:
    - God’s Perspective!
  - It Is God:
    - Who Is The Subject:
      - Of Each Verb!
  - That Is Why We Are Told That It Is:
    - “He” Who “Did Foreknow!”
      - And That It Is:
        - “He” Who “Did Predestinate!”

- And It Is Also:
  - “He” Who “Called” & “Glorified” & “Justified!”
- God Alone Is The Subject:
  - In The “Golden Chain Of Salvation!”
- Second Observation - Each Of These Truths:
  - Are Given To:
    - The People Of God!
  - It Is Christians / Believers In Jesus Christ:
    - Who Are The Objects:
      - Of Each Verb!
  - Whenever You Come Across:
    - “Whom” - Or - “Them” - It Always:
      - Refers To The Same People Who Can Claim The Promise Of God’s Comfort In 8:28!
        - Especially - “Them That Love God!”
  - And - As Jesus Said:
    - In John 14:21 - “He that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him!”
  - So - Christians Alone Are The Objects:
    - Of The “Golden Chain Of Salvation!”
- Third Observation - Each Of These Truths:
  - Are Given To Us:
    - As Something That Has Already Been Done & Has Already Been Accomplished!
      - In The Greek - Each Verb Is In The Aorist Tense!
  - This Means That:
    - From God’s Perspective:
      - The Salvation Of His People:
        - Is Complete!
  - Even Though:
    - From Our Perspective:
      - There Is Still More To Come:
        - Like Our Final Glorification!
- Now - With These Observations In Place:
  - Let’s Look More Closely At:
    - This Golden Chain:
      - Which Is Not Only:
        - The Foundation Of Your Solace As A Christian!
    - It Is Also:
      - The Very Foundation Of Your Salvation Itself!
        - Because - It First Deals With:
- The Choice Of God!
  - Which Is Described For Us In These Terms:
    - 8:29a - “For Whom He Did Foreknow!”
      - The Foreknowledge Of God:
        - Is Something That Is Talked About Several Times In The New Testament! And It Refers To:
    - A Perfect Knowledge!
      - When “Foreknowledge” Is Used Of Man:
        - In The Bible - It Refers To:
          - A Limited Knowledge!
        - Like In Acts 26:5 - When Paul Said That The Jews:
          - “Knew [Him] From The Beginning!”
        - They Only Knew Paul:
          - Based On What They *Could* Know About Paul!
            - What He Told Them & What They Observed!
              - Limited!
      - But - When “Foreknowledge” Is Used Of God:
        - We Must Remember That It Is Related To:

- His Omniscience!
  - God's Knowledge Is A Perfect Knowledge:
  - It Is Comprehensive!
- And Who Does God Perfectly Know?
  - Everyone! And Especially:
  - You - Christian!
  - And It Is Also:
- A Prior Knowledge!
  - When Used Of Man:
    - Foreknowledge Means What They Know:
      - Earlier In Time!
  - But - When Used Of God:
    - It Means What God Knew:
      - Before All Time!
  - Before Anyone Or Anything:
    - Existed! In Biblical Terms:
      - He Knew You Even "Before The Foundation Of The World!"
      - But - It Is Also:
- A Particular Knowledge!
  - Within The Context Of These Verses:
    - God's Foreknowledge Is Not:
      - A General Thing - About Everything & Everybody!
      - It Is A Particular Thing:
        - About A Particular People!
    - We Are Told:
      - "**Whom** He Did Foreknow!"
        - It Doesn't Refer To:
          - What Those People Would Be Or Not Be!
        - Nor Does It Point To:
          - What Those People Would Do Or Not Do!
      - It Simply Says That:
        - God Foreknew **Them!**
      - And Elsewhere In The New Testament:
        - This Divine Foreknowledge:
          - That Is Both Infinite & Intimate:
            - Is Not A Reactionary Knowledge, But A Proactive Knowledge!
          - So That It Refers To God's Own Choice!
    - Like When It Is Used:
      - In 1 Peter 1:20 - When It Refers To Jesus:
        - "Who verily was foreordained / foreknown before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you!"
          - It Was God The Father Who Didn't Just Know That Jesus Would Be The Savior, He Chose Him To Be So!
    - And - When It Is Used:
      - In Romans 11:2 - When It Refers To The Jews:
        - "God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew!"
          - It Wasn't Because Of Anything Good Or Lovely He Saw In Them, But It Was Simply His Gracious Choice To Love Them!
        - Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - "The LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that [are] upon the face of the earth. / The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye [were] the fewest of all people: / 8 But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers!"
          - And So It Is Here!
    - If You Are A Believer In Jesus Christ:
      - This Truth Is For You!
        - God Foreknew You!
          - And He Did So In The Sense:

- Of Choosing You!
- Not For Anything:
  - He Saw In You:
    - That You Would Do Or Be!
    - But Because Of His Own Nature Of Love And Grace!
- And - This Is Very First Link:
  - In The Golden Chain Of Your Salvation!
    - God Foreknew You & Chose You:
      - To Be His Child!
  - And The Evidence That He Foreknew You:
    - Is That You Love Him & “Believe On Him Whom He Hath Sent!” (John 6:29)
    - But Then - We Come The Second Link In The Chain!
    - And That Is:
- The Commitment Of God!
  - Which Is Described For Us In This Way:
    - 8:2ab - “For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren!”
    - The Predestination Of God:
      - Is Also Something That Is Talked About In The New Testament Several Times! And It Refers To:
        - God’s Own Decision!
        - **IE**: President Transition!
  - Though Closely Related To God’s Foreknowledge:
    - There Is A Shade Of Difference!
      - Whereas Foreknowledge Looks Back:
        - Towards The Infinite Wisdom Of God!
      - Predestination Looks Forward:
        - Towards The Accomplishment Of His Perfect Will!
        - It Refers To:
  - An Explicit Decision!
    - When God Decides To Do Something:
      - It Will Take Place:
        - According To His Powerful Nature!
        - It Is Also:
  - An Enduring Decision!
    - Since It Is Made Prior To When It Will Take Place:
      - It Is Something That Will Never Change!
        - Why “Predestine” Is Also Translated “Foreordain!”
        - So - It Is Also:
  - An Effectual Decision!
    - When God Foreordains Something:
      - Or Predestines Something:
        - It Means That It Will Come To Pass!
    - It Will Happen:
      - Because God Will Make It Happen!
    - This Is Because:
      - God Never Takes His Hands “Off The Plow” - So To Speak:
        - Of His Eternal Plans & Purposes!
      - And So - When God Predestinates Something - It Is Ultimately:
  - An Eternal Decision!
    - Even Though This Word Looks Forward:
      - God’s Decisions Are Eternal Decisions:
        - That Have Lasted & Will Last As Long As God Himself!
  - And God Has “Predestinated” All Those:
    - Whom He “Foreknew!”
      - And His Decision Was That:
        - If You Are His Child:
          - You Will Be “Conformed To The Image Of His Son!”

- So - This Is God's Own Guarantee!
  - When You Believe In Jesus Christ As Your Savior From Sin:
    - He Has Already Predestined & Foreordained You:
      - To - One Day - Be Like His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ!
      - This Is His Commitment To You!
  - Isn't This What We Find Taking Place:
    - In Philippians 3:20-21 - "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: / Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself!"
  - But - Its Not Just Your Body:
    - That Will Be Like Christ's!
      - It Will Also Be:
        - Your Mind & Heart & Soul & Spirit:
          - That Will Be Conformed To His Image As Well!
- And This - Christian:
  - Is What Predestination Is All About!
    - It Describes God's Eternal Decision:
      - To Take You:
        - Sinner As You Are!
      - And Make You:
        - Like His Own Son!
    - Even As Paul Tells Us:
      - In Ephesians 1:3-5 - "Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ: / According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: / Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will!"
  - If You Are A Believer In Jesus Christ:
    - This Truth Is For You!
      - God Predestinated You:
        - To Become Like Christ!
    - But - Why Would God Do This?
      - The Primary Reason:
        - Is Not For You Or Even About You - According To This Verse!
      - The Primary Reason:
        - Is For His Only Begotten Son!
          - 8:29 - "That he might be the firstborn among many brethren!"
    - God Wanted To:
      - Honor And Glorify:
        - His Son, Jesus Christ:
          - Even As His Son:
            - Honored And Glorified Him!
      - And To Do This:
        - He Made Him An "Elder Brother" Within The Family Of God!
        - He Gave Him A People, To Not Only Save:
          - But To Love & To Nurture & To Care For!
      - God Gave His Son:
        - You - If You Believe In His Son!
    - And - This Is The Second Link:
      - In The Golden Chain Of Your Salvation!
        - God Predestinated You:
          - To Be Conformed To The Image Of His Own Son!
    - And Then We Come To:
      - 8:30 - Where The Eternal Purpose & Plan Of God:
        - Meets With Time!
        - And We Find:
  - The Call Of God!

- 8:30 - “Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called!”
  - This Is God - Working Out In Time:
    - What He Planned & Purposed To Do:
      - From All Eternity!
  - It Points Us Back To:
    - 8:28 - “To Them Who Are The Called According To His Purpose!”
- This Call:
  - Refers To The Divine Call Of God:
    - To Sinners:
      - Who Will Be Saved:
        - Because Of His Choice Of Them & His Commitment To Them!
- There Is An Invitation:
  - To God’s Call:
    - Through The Word Of The Gospel:
      - Of Jesus Christ!
  - 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14:
    - “But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: / Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ!”
  - But - Even Though:
    - The Gospel Call:
      - Is Something That Can Be Spread Throughout The Whole World:
        - When It Comes To Those Who Believe:
- There Is An Initiation:
  - By God’s Call!
    - This Call Is Known As:
      - An “Effectual Call!”
    - Even As Jesus Described:
      - In John 6:37 - “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out!”
- But - What Are We To Do:
  - With This Call?
    - Of Course - From Other Scripture:
      - Turn From Our Sin & Selves:
        - Through Repentance!
      - Turn To & Trust In Jesus:
        - By Faith!
    - But - Paul’s Focus Is Not Here On:
      - Our Response To The Call:
        - Or On Our Reception Of The Truth:
          - Or Even On Our Responsibility!
    - His Focus Remains On:
      - Salvation From:
        - God’s Perspective!
          - Because - This Is The Only Way You And I Can Truly “Know” What We Are Told Back In 8:28!
- If & When God Called You:
  - It Means That:
    - You Will Respond:
      - By Repentance & Faith!
    - And Will Lead To:
      - The Fourth Link In This Golden Chain:
        - Which Is:
- The Clearing Of God!
  - 8:30b - “And whom he called, them he also justified!”
    - To Be Justified - As We’ve Already Seen:
      - Means That God Declares You:

- A Sinner:
  - To Be Righteous And Not Guilty Any Longer:
    - For Your Sin!
- Not Because Of Anything You Have Done:
  - But Because Of What Jesus Did:
    - For You!
    - He Paid The Entire Penalty For Your Sin:
      - Through His Death On The Cross!
- But - Even Though:
  - From Our Perspective:
    - Our Response To God's Call:
      - Brings About Justification!
  - Yet - From God's Perspective:
    - It Is The Result Of His Call!
- And So:
  - From God's Eternal Standpoint:
    - He Had Already Justified His People!
      - And - In The Process Of Time:
        - He Is Making It So!
- If You Are A Believer In Jesus Christ:
  - These Truths Are For You!
    - God Called You!
    - God Justified You!
  - So That Then:
    - We Can Come To The Final Link:
      - In This Golden Chain Of Salvation! And That Is:
- The Completion Of God!
  - God's Completion:
    - Of His People:
      - According To His:
        - Eternal Plan!
  - 8:30 - "And whom he justified, them he also glorified!"
    - Again - From God's Standpoint:
      - It's Like It Has Already Been Accomplished!
        - Your Completion & Conformity To The Image Of Jesus Christ!
- I Believe This:
  - Glorification:
    - May Also Include:
      - The Process Of Sanctification:
        - Because - As We Are Told In Proverbs 4:18 - "But the path of the just [is] as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day!"
- The Perfect Day Is Coming:
  - For Sure - Of The Final Glorification Of God's People!
    - But In The Mean Time:
      - 2 Corinthians 3:18 - We Are Being - "Changed into the same image from glory to glory, [even] as by the Spirit of the Lord!"
- And - If You Are A Believer In Jesus Christ:
  - This Truth Is For You Too!
    - 8:29-30 - "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. / Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified!"
  - And This Golden Chain:
    - Is The Foundation Of:
      - Your Solace!
      - Your Salvation!
      - But Also - It Is:



3. ***The Foundation Of Our Sureness!***

- What Can We Be Sure Of:
  - If God Has Chained Us To Himself:
    - With This Golden Chain:
      - Of Salvation?
- 8:31 - "What shall we then say to these things? If God [be] for us, who [can be] against us?"

**Conclusion:**

1. The Reason:
  - You Can Take Comfort In:
    - God's Plan For You!
  - The Reason:
    - You Can Be Certain Of:
      - God's Purposes For You!
  - Is Because:
    - You Have Been:
      - "Called According To His Purpose!"
2. Remember That:
  - Your Salvation:
    - Is & Has Always Been:
      - "Of The Lord!"

- \* Have You Responded To The Gospel Call By Faith In Jesus?
- \* It Is The Evidence That All Of The Other Truths Of This Gospel Chain Belong To You!
- \* Now - Believe In & Rejoice In All That God Has Done To Make Your Salvation Possible!

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