

GOD'S PURPOSE – PART 1

--ROMANS 8:29-30--

INTRODUCTION:

In Romans 8:28 it is stated, “*And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*” (Romans 8:28, NASB95) At the end of last week’s message I said that Paul goes into greater detail in the next two verses explaining what God’s purpose is in redeeming for Himself a people that He will ultimately take to be with Him forever. This morning we are going to look at the purpose of salvation and then Paul expands from the purpose to also give us the progression of salvation from God’s perspective.

I. THE PURPOSE OF SALVATION (Romans 8:29b)

- a. I want to focus on God’s _____ of salvation which is given to us in the end of verse 29, it is a two-fold purpose.

CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST

- b. From before the foundation of the world God planned and chose to save sinners from their sins in order that they would become _____ to the image of His Son.
- c. Think of what we have already learned in this chapter leading up to the truth in this verse that God will, without exception, _____ the salvation of every true believer in Christ. (Romans 8:1, 9, 14-17, 26-27)
- d. Two things we know from the New Testament about what it means to be conformed to the _____ of Christ. (Philippians 3:20-21; Romans 6:5; 1 Corinthians 15:49; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 John 3:2)

THAT CHRIST WILL BE PREEMINENT

- e. To be conformed to the image of His Son I said was the secondary aspect of God’s purpose for _____.

- f. His primary and supreme purpose for salvation is to _____ His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ by making Him preeminent.
- g. The brethren referred to that the Lord Jesus Christ is the firstborn among are _____.
- h. Paul speaks of this truth of the primary _____ of God saving us in some of His other epistles, for the purpose of glorifying His Son. (Philippians 2:9-10; Colossians 1:18)
- i. In the beginning, God’s crowning point in creation was to create _____ in His image, mankind in God’s image was to honor and glorify God by serving and obeying Him.
- j. As believer’s saved by God, conformed to the image of His Son, we will spend eternity glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ with the _____ He has given us.

II. THE PROGRESSION OF SALVATION (Romans 8:29-30)

- a. Within these two verses Paul gives us the _____ of salvation from God’s perspective. (Romans 8:28)

FOREKNOWLEDGE

- b. The first link in the chain of salvation is God’s _____.
- c. Now it seems reasonable that because God is not bound by _____, because He is omniscient that He is able to look to the end of history and beyond and to know in advance every detail to the most insignificant occurrence. (1 Corinthians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
- d. God in His omniscience certainly _____ the faith of every person who is saved. (John 1:12-13; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- e. When Scripture speaks of God’s _____ it is not in reference to His omniscience or to what God foresees, but to what He has foreordained. (1 Peter 1:1-2, 20)
- f. Not only does foreknew having this meaning of foreordained but it also speaks of _____ for another being. (Psalm 139:13-16)

CONCLUSION:

This morning we have looked at the purpose of salvation and began looking at the progression of salvation. God has called us according to His purpose. His purpose is that we might be conformed to the image of His Son, that we will one day when our salvation is complete have a body like that of the Lord Jesus Christ, a glorified heavenly body and be spiritually conformed to His image as well. We will be like Him in that we will be sinless and righteous, bearing His glory and His righteousness for all eternity and this is so that we might worship the Lord Jesus Christ as the preeminent One over all. We see in Scripture in numerous places crowns spoken of that we may receive, the crown of righteousness, the crown of life, the crown of glory and what a privilege it will be to cast those crowns at the feet of Jesus as we worship Him in all His glory. We see this scene in the book of Revelation in chapter 4, verse 10-11 which says, “...*the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, ‘Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.’*” (Revelation 4:10–11, NASB95) I look forward to that day, unending worship as we glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as the preeminent One.

We also looked at God’s foreknowledge and the fact that He foreordained our salvation, rejoice that God in His foreknowledge chose you to be His child and that He knows you and loves you and is in the process of conforming you to the image of His Son through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. “*Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.*” (Romans 11:33–36, NASB95)