

ETERNAL SECURITY – PART 2

ROMANS 8:28

INTRODUCTION:

In Romans 8:28 we have a wonderful promise made by God to Christians, it is a promise of eternal security, or once saved always saved. This promise divides into four parts: First, knowing we are secure; Second, our eternal security in all things; Third, those who are eternally secure; Fourth, the source of our security.

Last Sunday, we looked at the first two parts of this verse, this morning we will look at the last two parts.

I. THOSE WHO ARE ETERNALLY SECURE (Romans 8:28c)

- a. The third part of this promise is the only part of this promise that is limited.
- b. *“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called...”*
(Romans 8:28c, NASB95)

II. THOSE WHO LOVE GOD (Romans 8:28c)

- a. Paul begins by saying that those who are eternally secure, those to whom God is causing all things to work together for good are those who love God. (Ephesians 6:24; James 1:12)
- b. There are many different ways that we show our love to God and because we are lovers of God our love is seen in the things that we desire. (Philippians 1:9; Psalm 42:1-2)
- c. When we truly love the Lord, our life will be characterized by peace that only God can give us. (Philippians 4:6-7)
- d. As a lover of God, we will love what God loves and we know what He loves by going to His Word because in His Word He reveals for us the things that He loves. (1 John 4:7-8; 20-21; 5:1-2)
- e. On the flip side of that, if we love what God loves, then we will hate what God hates. (James 4:4; 1 John 2:15)

- f. For those who truly love God they will be longing for Christ’s return. (2 Timothy 4:7-8)
- g. The greatest demonstration of our love for God is obedience and this should be our greatest desire. (John 14:21; 1 John 5:2)
- h. God’s Word commands us to love God and to love God’s children, with that said this love does not originate with us.
(Romans 5:5; 1 John 4:7, 10, 19)

III. THOSE WHO ARE CALLED (Romans 8:28c)

- a. As I said earlier that these two titles can be looked at from two perspectives, those that love God is from the human perspective, those who were called from God’s perspective. (Ephesians 2:3)
- b. As we begin to look at those who are called, we must understand how the word “call” is used in Scripture. (Matthew 22:14)
- c. When we come to the epistles, this word “called” or “calling” takes on a different meaning or sense and it refers to the sovereign, renewing work of God in a person’s heart that brings him to new life in Christ.
- d. We must also understand that believers are never called on the merits of who they are or what they have done, but only on the basis of who God is and what He has done. (John 6:65; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 22-24)
- e. It is through the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit that God calls men, women and children to Himself. (1 Peter 1:23; Titus 3:4-7)

IV. ETERNAL SECURITY’S SOURCE (Romans 8:28d)

- a. God causes all things to work together for good of His children and He does this because it is according to His purpose.
- b. God’s wider, more general purpose is to offer salvation to all mankind. (John 3:16-17; 2 Peter 3:9)

- c. God's purpose spoken of here in Romans 8:28 is His more limited purpose which is His plan to save those whom He has called and predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son. (Deuteronomy 7:7-8; Isaiah 46:9-11)

CONCLUSION:

I know that I have gone long this morning, but I wanted to finish up this verse and since we were not meeting together, I thought I could go a little longer. This morning we have looked at those who are eternally secure, those who love God and those who are called by God. We have looked at God's purpose for those who love Him and those whom He has called and His purpose is our salvation, every part of it until it is completed and we are glorified, conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, having a glorified body like His, sinless, righteous, and immortal. Because we are God's children, because we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we are eternally secure, what God has begun as we read in Isaiah He will bring to pass, He will bring our salvation to completion, this is a fact that we can place all our hope on. John wrote in His Gospel concerning Jesus in John 1:12-13, "*But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*" (John 1:12-13, NASB95)