



THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS "What Shall We Say?" Romans 8:28-39

No. 291

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At this point the tone of the epistle changed. Having carefully and systematically laid out this theological statement, the apostle now adopts a preaching style, and with a series of questions, he asks for a response. This response should include the following.

I. We Are More than Convinced. 8:28-30

- A. That God has a plan.
 - 1. Man made in God's image. Genesis 1:26
 - 2. Man reproduced in his own image. Genesis 5:3
 - 3. Christ came in God's image. Hebrews 1:3
 - 4. He will be "firstborn" of those conformed to His image. v. 29
 - 5. "We shall be like Him." 1 John 3:2
- B. That God has a procedure.
 - 1. Those He foreknew He predestined... v. 29
 - a. Divine foreknowledge.
 - i. To know in advance what people will do.
 - ii. To know intimately some people and not others.
 - b. Divine predestination.
 - i. Determining in advance what the foreknown would become.
 - ii. Sovereignly deciding limits of human experience.
 - 2. Those He predestined He called. v. 30
 - a. Divine intervention in human affairs.
 - b. Divine invitation (calling, summons) so share.
 - 3. Those He called He justified... v. 30
 - 4. Those He justified He glorified... v. 30
 - a. "Sanctification is glory begun..."
 - b. "...Glory is sanctification completed" (F.F. Bruce).
- C. That God has made a promise. v. 28
 - 1. His plan stretches from eternity to eternity.
 - 2. His commitment is to the ultimate good.

II. We Are More than Conquerors. 8:31-37

- A. Conquering opposition. v. 31
 - 1. Who can be against us?
 - 2. If God is for us.
- B. Conquering inadequacy. v. 32
 - 1. Who will give us what we need?
 - 2. God did not spare His Son.
- C. Conquering fear. v. 33
 - 1. Who is going to charge us?
 - 2. God has justified.
- D. Conquering uncertainty. v. 34
 - 1. Who is going to condemn us?
 - 2. Christ intercedes for us.
- E. Conquering life. vv. 35-37
 - 1. All life's disruptive eventualities...
 - 2. ...Are to be expected...
 - 3. ...And overcome through Him who loves us.

III. We Are More than Confident. 8:38-39

- A. Of God's love.
- B. Of God's superiority.
- C. Of Christ being "our Lord."