

Romans 8:30

In verse 30... Paul makes one of the most profound, one of the most weighty theological statements, in the all of scripture. At first reading, it may not seem that way, but I want to suggest to you, that herein, in this one statement, Paul summarizes everything he has said to this point.

Turn back with me to where he began... ¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Paul says... What was previously hidden...is now clearly seen!

Paul says... Now we can SEE the fullness of His Plan!

¹⁷For therein is the righteousness of God revealed...

Christ was the “*missing link...*” the “*missing piece of the puzzle...*”

Given the O.T. writings without the knowledge of Christ, can be very confusing, and hard to understand. But when viewed through the “*lens of Christ*”...the picture becomes more and more clear. The writer here, Paul, was a scholar of what we call the O.T. writings... But even so, he was completely blind as to their meaning until the day he had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. When Christ entered Paul’s heart and mind...God’s revelation opened up to him like a door swinging open...

Here in chapter 8, verse 30... With one sweeping statement, Paul declares the “*Salvation Plan*” of God. A plant that reveals... *The Righteousness of God...*

(Ro. 8:30) ³⁰Moreover whom **he** did predestinate, them **he** also called: and whom **he** called, them **he** also justified: and whom **he** justified, them **he** also glorified.

The “*Point*” that we must grasp here, is that...

From start...to finish... Every aspect of man’s salvation is the work of God!

Every aspect of our salvation comes as the result of the “*Righteous Deeds*” of God...!

HE established the plan, HE sought the sinner, HE justified the sinner, HE changes the sinner!

HE does it all! From start to finish...from the putting of the plan in place before the foundation of the world, to the changing of a man’s life... every single aspect is carried out by God!

It is VITAL that we UNDERSTAND that...

First because, it brings about praise to God! Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 1... God designed it this way, so that... ²⁹That no flesh should glory in his presence... ³¹That, according as it is written, He that glories, let him glory in the Lord.

Our praise should not be in “*Our Works*” but in *God’s Works!*” (Ga. 6:14, God forbid I should glory)

Secondly, it establishes Faith in God... We no longer trust in ourselves, we no longer seek to please God by our deeds, but rather we walk by faith...looking to God, placing our trust in Him!

This morning, I want to take a close look at this passage...

³⁰Moreover whom **he** did predestinate, them **he** also called: and whom **he** called, them **he** also justified: and whom **he** justified, them **he** also glorified.

Paul first speaks to the people he would save...

³⁰Moreover whom **he did predestinate**... This has been the center of great controversy. Some take this to mean that God has “*Chosen*” who is to be saved, and who is not to be saved! Those who hold to this teaching are called “*Calvinist*.” So named after John Calvin, one who proposed this teaching. They teach that if you are one of “*God’s chosen*” people, then at some point you will be saved, that we have no part, or no choice in the matter! But if your not one of “*The Elect*”...then you’ll never be saved, that it is impossible, that there’s nothing you can do about it!

They read it like this... Those whom He “**Pre-determined**” beforehand to be saved, He called, He justified and He glorified.

Now listen very carefully... In one sense they are **partly** right! Many argue against such teaching by simply saying... “*Well, I don’t believe that!*” But does that make us right? Just because we don’t believe something to be true, does that make it so?

Listen very closely... To argue that God does not “*Predestine People*” to either Heaven or Hell is to argue AGAINST the scripture! There’s no other way to interpret “*Moreover whom he did predestinate...*” The ones God chose before hand...

T: It clearly means, “*God has pre-determined before hand...*”

WHO will be saved...and who will not be saved...

And according to scripture, it’s something that God has “*Fixed*”, something that He has established in eternity past! Ephesians tells us, that he established “*His Plan*” before the foundation of the world!

The miss-understanding lies with the interpretation of the “**Whom**” in the passage.

³⁰Moreover **whom** he did predestinate...The ones that God “*pre-determined*,” the ones that God “*Chose beforehand*”, is not, as *Calvinist* suggest, a reference to specific “**men & women** that *God hand picks*” to save. God doesn’t say... “*You I will save, you I will, you I will not, etc...*”

To have that perspective, takes FAITH completely out of the equation.

Given the context of the passage, the “**whom**” here refers to “**People who come by faith...**” God pre-determined that those who He would save, would be those who came by way of faith! Contrasted to those who seek acceptance by the deeds of the Law! Salvation would come only by Grace...not Works!

T: God has **predestined** (determined before the foundation of the world) that He would reconcile fallen man unto Himself through the avenue of FAITH!

Which also means, that ALL who do not come by FAITH...will perish!

I need to make clear here...the “*Saving Faith*” that he speaking of here is not mere intellectual belief.

Even the very FAITH that saves us... is given to us from God...
God imparts Faith unto us, through the hearing of HIS word!

Romans 10:17...Speaking of preaching...

⁷So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The “*Faith that saves us*”...comes as a result of the WORK of the word of God in our hearts!
Every aspect of our salvation is the work of God! The ONLY THING we do, is be exposed to the word!
This is a living, power filled book! It’s the Book of Life! It imparts life to the DEAD!

God’s Plan can be summed up in the words of Paul in writing to the Corinthians...

¹⁷For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. ¹⁸For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

²⁰Where *is* the wise? where *is* the scribe? where *is* the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ²¹For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

God has chosen to use the “*foolishness of preaching*” to rescue fallen man... through hearing the WORD of GOD (proclaimed by human agents) the word enters the human heart and begins to convict of sin, and point out sin...Once the work of the WORD has accomplished its task, in revealing the problem... God Spirit invites that man to come to Himself!

...them he also called: God INVITES us to himself! **This speaks of God drawing us by His Spirit.**
As guilty transgressors against God, we can’t “*Decide*” we want to make things right with God... We need God’s forgiveness! We must come to the point that we realize, our desperate need for God’s mercy! A man can straighten up his life by “*doing right*” by the Law, but that won’t help! The ONLY HOPE of mankind is that, by the hearing of the word of God, he would come to the realization of his GUILT! Leading him to realize his ONLY HOPE is in the Grace & Mercy of God!

He INVITES sinners to come... And those who come...HE JUSTIFIES...

...and whom he called, them he also justified:

IT is God that justifies! There’s nothing we can do “*justify ourselves!*” We are sinners through and through...on our own, we haven’t the slightest hope of producing righteousness! That’s why God, in His perfect plan, offered up Christ on the Cross! So the whole world come be made right with God, by coming to Christ. By Christ dying in our stead...paying our penalty...

³⁰Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: ...and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Lastly, Paul speaks to Glorification... It speaks of the part of the process of God’s Spirit “*At work*” within our lives, shaping and molding our lives, conforming us into the image of Christ.

It scares me...of some of the things being taught today, the teaching of Christ as Savior, but not Lord! Today, there’s a teaching that taking place almost that you simply say you believe that Christ died on the cross for your sins, get baptized, and your good to go! Then you just continue on with “*Your Life...*” Basically, that you can “*believe*” on Christ, and then continue to live for self, this world...and you’ll ok!

That’s not true! When we receive Christ into our hearts, Christ goes to work, changing the desires of our heart, working within us, transforming us into men and women of God.

³⁰Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

T: Here's the truth that we must grasp...
The **same God** that *Justifies the sinner...Glorifies the sinner!*

These two are inseparable... He "*Transforms*" our lives just as sure as He *Justifies* our life.

(Philippians 1) **Being confident** of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

John MacArthur put it this way... *If there is no "glorification"...there is no "justification!"*

"*Glorification*" speaks to the difference "*CHRIST*" makes in ones life!

Johnny Hunt says...*If there's "No Change"...there's "No Christ!"*

Conforming to the Law makes a difference, but its just the morality of the man! He may do right things...yet not be right in heart!

And that's Paul's whole point here! Writing to his Jewish brethren, who had a form of righteousness by their adherence to the Law, but even so...their heart was far from God! Its not that they necessarily did evil things, wicked things...they tried to do right. Problem was...their hearts were in bondage to this world, to self, and their only HOPE of rescue was to surrender their lives to Jesus Christ!

The same God that "*spoke to us*" in His word...the same God who "*drew us*" by His Spirit... the same God who "*offered up His Son*" to justify us...THAT same God is working in our hearts, "*transforming*" us into the image of His Son...

From start...to finish...Every aspect of man's salvation is the work of God!

³⁰Moreover whom **he** did predestinate, them **he** also called: and whom **he** called, them **he** also justified: *and whom he justified, them he also glorified.*