

SERMON TEXT - ROMANS 8:28-30

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Order of Salvation (from Tim Challies in 'Visual Theology')

Election: Before creation, because of his sovereign good pleasure, God chooses some people to be saved.

Calling: God summons people to himself through the human proclamation of the gospel so they respond in saving faith.

Regeneration: God secretly and sovereignly imparts spiritual life to those who have been called.

Conversion: We willingly respond to the gospel call, repenting of sin and placing faith in Christ for salvation.

Justification: An instantaneous legal act of God in which he declares that our sins are forgiven and Christ's righteousness is ours.

Adoption: An act of God in which he makes us members of his family.

Sanctification: A progressive, lifelong work of God and man that frees us from sin and makes us more like Christ.

Perseverance: All those who are justified will be kept by God's power and persevere as Christians to the end of their lives.

Glorification: God will finally remove all trace of sin from the Christian and give him a resurrection body.

THE STORY OF REDEMPTION: PART 2 - ROM. 8:28-30

Theme: *God is the hero of our salvation.*

#1 - Election

Westminster Confession Q# 20 *Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?*

A: God having, out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

#2 - Calling

Westminster Confession Q #31 *What is effectual calling?*

A: Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, he does persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the gospel.

#3 - Justification

Westminster Confession Q #33 *What is justification?*

A: Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

#3 - Glorification

Westminster Confession Q #37 *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?*

A: The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

Other Passages

Romans 9:11-12 *11 though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— 12 she was told, "The older will serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."*

Romans 3:10 *as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; 11 no one understands; no one seeks for God.*

John 6:37 *All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.*

Deuteronomy 28:2,15 *And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God... 15 "But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.*