

SERMON TEXT - ROMANS 8:31-39

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 3 ROM. 8:31-39

Theme: *God is the hero of our salvation. We are to work out this salvation into all parts of our lives.*

#1 - God is For Us

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

#2 - There Is No Condemnation

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

#3 - God's Love is Steadfast

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

Other Passages

Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Matthew 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Romans 7:15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. 17 So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

Psalms 44:22 Yet for your sake we are killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. 23 Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!... 26 Rise up; come to our help! Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!