**Sermon Notes**
Good News Church
***Romans - The Righteous Will Live by Faith***
***Chapter 8:29-39 (Part 3) – "No Separation"***
Drue Warner
11-22-26

**PRIMARY MESSAGE OF ROMANS**
***"The righteous will live by faith."* – Romans 1:17**

**THEMES**
CH. 1-3 Depravity, Justice, and Grace
CH. 4-5 Faith – Origins and Impact (O.T. Reflections > Abraham and Adam)
CH. 6-7 Living in Grace – motivation, frustration, and salvation
CH. 8 Living in the Power of the Spirit vs. the Lust of the Flesh
**LAST WEEK – God working ALL things for the good**
**TODAY – No Separation**
CH. 9 To be continued in February

**ROMANS 8:29-39 SUMMARY:**
Because God has loved you from before time, predestined you to eternal life, called you as a Shepherd calls His sheep, justified you to be perfectly righteous in His sight, and glorified you in His radiant beauty, **NOTHING whatsoever** will be able to separate you from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus.

**TODAY'S KEY VERSE**
**"If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" – Romans 8:31b-32**

**1. CHAIN OF LOVE**
29 For those God **foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also **called**; those he called, he also **justified**; those he justified,
he also **glorified**.

**For any who are outside of faith and could care less about everything we're talking about here this morning, this eternally important truth doesn't matter to them at all. This teaching is for those who have a heart for God so that they will know that God has you, and He has had you from before the world was ever created and He will have you for all eternity. He will never let you go.**

**CONTEXT:** All things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to his purpose BECAUSE He knew your name before the world was ever created. When Jesus died on the cross, he wasn't dying for a crowd, He was dying for you, specifically (He knew your name), and for all of those whom God gave him.

**You and I (those who are in Christ) our gifts of the Father to the Son.**

- Christmas reference… We are presents under His tree (the cross).

- However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. - John 6:37

**Foreknown (= foreloved)**

- **Scripture Verses**
  - "He chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless." - Ephesians 1:4
  - **"The Lord knows those who are his." – 2 Timothy 2:19**
  - **"Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father" - 1 Peter 1:2**
  - **"I was found by people who were not looking for me.** I showed myself to those who were not asking for me." - Romans 10:20

- **People God Foreknew (Chose) –** Abraham (from Ur), Isaac, **Jacob**, Moses (excuses), Gideon (coward), David (least of his brothers), Isaiah, **Jeremiah**,
  Hosea (married a prostitute), Jonah, the disciples, **Paul**, etc.
  - **JACOB - "Before they were born or had done anything good or bad:** that God's purposes in election might stand – not by works but Him who calls." - Romans 9:11-12
  - **JEREMIAH - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,** before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." – Jeremiah 1:5
  - **PAUL -** "For it pleased God in His kindness to choose me and call me, **even before I was born!** What undeserved mercy!" - Galatians 1:15

- **BOASTING** - If foreknowledge really meant that God chooses people based on their choice, then we would have A LOT to boast about!
  - **Those who make the best choice a human being could ever make, CHOOSING GOD, should be the most arrogant people on the planet.** How could we not boast about that?
  - But Paul is very clear and his writings that we have **nothing** to boast about because God chooses us (He loved us first)! We are saved 100% by grace.
    - **"Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded…** For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law." - Romans 3:27a, 28

- **SCRIPTURE IS CLEAR ABOUT MAN'S INABILITY -** The foreknowledge belief of God's choosing based on our choice, completely discards all of the rest of scripture of man's complete inability to choose God without intervention from God.

    - **"The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing." - John 6:63a**

    - "No one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and **no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit."** - 1 Corinthians 12:3

    - "The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. **Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God."** **– Romans 8:7-8**

**Predestined**

29 For those God **foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters (guaranteed).

- **We'll talk more about predestination when we hit Romans 9 (in February).**

- **For now… Know this about God's Heart of Love**
    - "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, **I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn!** Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?'" – Ezekiel 33:11

    - "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish,** but everyone to come to repentance." – 2 Peter 3:9

- **Q: If God doesn't want anyone to perish, then why does He not predestine everyone?** A: "God often uses what He hates to accomplish what He loves." – Steve Estes

    - ***Q) What does God love*?** A: Justice, Mercy, Righteousness, Holiness, Compassion, Grace, Humility **(more about this in Romans 9)**

        - "Your throne is founded on two strong pillars - righteousness and justice. Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants." - Psalm 89:14

    - **We don't like this truth of "predestination" because at the very heart is our desire to have more control over our lives than God has.** We trust our decisions more than God's. We do not understand how deeply flawed and broken we truly are. In our natural, sinful human state, our bent is towards wickedness rather than holiness, and we have no ability to save ourselves. Predestination is an indescribably amazing gift of God! Without it, we would be lost without hope.

**Called**

30 And those he **predestined**, he also **called**;

- **Effectual vs. General** - In this text, the version of calling that Paul is talking about is not general, but specific and effectual.
    - When God calls, he also enables us and motivates us to answer, "YES!" **(i.e., the disciples, Lazarus)**
- **Scripture Verses**
    - **"He calls His own sheep by name and He leads them out.** I am the Good Shepherd, I know my sheep and my sheep know me. You do not believe because you are not my sheep." - John 10:3, 14, 26
    - **"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them,** and I will raise them up at the last day. **"No one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them."** – John 6:44, 65
    - "Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. **The Lord opened her heart to respond** to Paul's message." – Acts 16:14
- **If God did not sovereignly elect and call people, then no one would come to Jesus** and his death on the cross would have been completely ineffective.

**Justified**

**Glorified**

**2. GOD IS FOR US**

**31 What, then, shall we say in response 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, along with him, graciously give us all things? **33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen (God's elect)?** It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? **No one.** Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

**3. NO SEPARATION**

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:

*"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."* from Psalm 44:22 (*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."* – Psalm 115:16)

37 No, in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through him who loved us.

- **"More than conquerers"** = We don't just barely squeak out the victory. We destroy the enemy!
    - Check out the highlights from last night's San Diego St. win over Boise St., who had an amazing comeback and barely (by the skin of their teeth) won that game!
    - 222 Georgia Tech  0 Cumberland College (10-7-1916)

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord

- **We can be confident in many things in this life.** We can be confident in the love that our parents have for us, that our spouse has for us and us for them, our children, and so forth, but none of those are flawless (i.e., Billy Joel, "I Love You Just the Way You Are"). **By far, the greatest level of confidence that we can have in this life is that of the love of God for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

    - "For you have been born again. Your new life did not come from your earthly parents because the life they gave you will end in death. **But this new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living Word of God."**
      **- 1 Peter 1:23**

- **If you have ears to hear this message, don't let it pass you by. Faith without works is dead. Your work here this morning is to, "Trust Christ."**

**CONCLUSION**

Because God has loved you from before time, predestined you to eternal life, called you as a Shepherd calls His sheep, justified you to be perfectly righteous in His sight, and glorified you in His radiant beauty, **NOTHING whatsoever** will be able to separate you from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus.

**And THAT'S Good News!**