

Study in Romans

Doctrine > Good News > Temporal Blessings > God's Sovereign Plan of Salvation
Romans 8:28-30

At this point in Paul's discourse, he is nearing the end of his section on the practical outworking of God's plan of salvation and the temporal blessings believers receive during this phase of sanctification. The "and" at the start of v. 28 links this section with what he has just been saying about the groaning of creation, believers and the Holy Spirit in eager anticipation of the completion of God's salvation and frustration with the struggle against sin and its consequences.

Here Paul's point is that God indeed has a grand plan in place that is working toward a mighty climax of glorified bodies for believers and eternal life. What may seem at times like chaos and a meaningless existence "full of sound and fury signifying nothing," as Shakespeare put it, is in fact a higher level of order that is coming to a full completion in God's time. Verse 28 makes it clear that not everything that happens IS good, rather that it is worked by God TO a good conclusion. This is the hope that Paul just spoke about in the section before and is the reason we are so grateful that it is God Who has made a new unconditional covenant in His blood.

1. God's master plan for good (v. 28; cf. Eph. 1:3-14)

2. God's assembly line of our salvation (vv. 29-30)