



Sermon Notes | The Assurance of Goodness and Glory | Romans 8:28-30

## **INTRODUCTION**

Romans 8:18-30

*"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 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. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."*

Father, plant these words deep into our heart. Grant us understanding. Enlighten us. Expand our vision of these things that we might be changed, and that You would receive glory. We pray in Christ's Name. Amen

Romans 8:28-30

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

And so we arrive at verse 28.

Romans 8:28

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

There is so much packed into this one verse alone, but to focus on all of that would miss much, and be a betrayal of the intention of the Letter. Many systematic theologians go here for doctrine, and in its place this is okay, but our aim is to focus on Paul's aim. Paul's point was not to present a comprehensive doctrine on Providence and predestination, though that is here, and is useful, but Paul's primary aim was to 'encourage believers', those living in the 'between' of the 'already and the not yet', those suffering from sin, decay, and persecution.

Romans 8:31-39

*"What then shall we say to these things? 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 with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 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. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,*

*'For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.'*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 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."*

Therefore, there is, indeed, need for encouragement, and to that end, we remain faithful to Paul's purpose and intent in the passage. And there is an abundance, a wellspring of 'encouragement' here in this passage. We will consider it as a whole, using verses 28-30 as our reference point.

### **I. THE ASSURANCE OF THE GOOD: (v. 28)**

Romans 8:28

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

Paul writes, 'And we know'. We consider this against what we 'don't know', such as that which we learned last week, 'that we don't know what to pray' (thus causing prayer-stopping anxiety). We don't know, but the Triune God does know, and He, the Holy Spirit, works His Triune authority to help us in our prayer life. Let us note, the Word fixes on God! We are weak, but God is strong. We don't know, but God knows! Over and over the Apostle Paul 'encourages' the Roman Christians, and us. We know God and His work, and we know He is powerful. Therefore, we fix our mind there, on God, on He whom we know.

Romans 8:28

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

As we lie in the 'in between', the beginning and the end of awaiting 'glory', we do so by the 'knowledge of God', for He has a 'plan and purpose', and He is Sovereign. Even as Ancient Israel was directed towards God, so are we.

Jeremiah 9:23-24

*"Thus says the LORD: 'Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.'"*

As in Israel through time, let us also boast that we know that 'He is the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice and righteousness', for in these things He delights.

Colossians 1:9-10

*"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."*

Direct your prayers to this end then, that you be filled with the knowledge of Him, 'so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him... and increasing in the knowledge of God,' (Col. 1:10). Pray to know God. We live in light of what we know! And we need to know what God's plan and purpose for the Cosmos are. This is Paul's point. We live in the 'in between' but we know things about God and therefore we live by them.

Romans 8:28

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

So, who are those who love God? It is not just believers. Many still 'claim' to love God, even in this day and age, but for many this is a vague claim, for they love Him on their own terms, and in their own way. And this is not really love for God. So how then does God define love for Himself? How does He feel and say about love for Himself? What does that look like? We see His answer when He spoke to the newly delivered people He rescued from Egypt. The LORD required them to respond rightfully, and lawfully, to live by His commands. No more idols. No more bowing down to other gods. He stated to them:

Exodus 20:2-6

*"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth, You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."*

Yahweh states: "Keep My Commandments!" That is how you love Me!

The message is repeated again to Israel in the book of Deuteronomy. Love God!

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

*"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one, You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."*

'Words on the heart' ... The love of God is tied to the Words of God. There is no love of God apart from the Words of God. Israel's love of God meant 'knowing His Commands'. And there is no difference from Old Testament times to Church times; we must keep His Commands, and likewise the Words of Jesus. Jesus pointed this truth out.

John 14:15

*"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."*

John 14:21

*"Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."*

Those who love God and obey God, and keep His commandments, will be loved also, states Jesus.

That is it! There is no rationalizing His commands, no forsaking His commands, no twisting His commands. His commands are His Words, and His Words are His authority. Let us not fall prey to the garden-old trap that says, 'Did God really say?' (as did the serpent tempted in Genesis 3). No.

Those who love God keep the Commands of God! They long for God.

Psalms 42:1-2

*"As a deer pants for flowing streams,  
so pants my soul for you, O God.  
My soul thirsts for God,  
for the living God."*

Do you hear that yearning? It is not a horizontal yearning. No. It is a vertical yearning. It is a yearning for God.

Psalm 63:1-2

*"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.  
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory."*

This is the loving God, the longed for God, and the love for the things of God!

Psalm 119:97

*"Oh how I love your law!  
It is my meditation all the day."*

Psalm 45:6-7

*"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.  
The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;  
you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.  
Therefore God, your God, has  
anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond  
your companions..."*

Do you love righteousness? Is your love like that of the Psalmist? Those who love God hate the things that God hates.

Psalm 97:10

*"O you who love the LORD, hate evil!  
He preserves the lives of his saints;  
he delivers them from the hand of the wicked."*

Do not tolerate evil. Do not accommodate evil, or condescend to evil. Do not give place to it, or rationalize it, or give a foothold to it. Love God, and hate evil! Love righteousness, and hate evil. John states how necessary this is.

I John 1:5-10

*"This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."*

I John 2:15

*"Do not love the world or the things in the world, If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."*

Therefore, do not love the world, or anything in the world. In fact, you cannot love God and love the world. You simply cannot. Why is this so? You cannot, because 'God is a jealous God'. Love God, and hate the world. Love the things that God loves, and hate the things He hates. No accommodating. No tolerance. And love God's people. Do you love God's people? This is how we know. This is our assurance, if we have love for God's people.

I John 3:14

*"We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death."*

I John 4:7-8

*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."*

To not love, is to not love God, for love is from God, and God is love. This is foundational. We love because love comes from God, and God loved us first.

I John 4:19

*"We love because he first loved us."*

Loving the right way is impossible without God having loved us first, and thus is the key point: To love God one must be loved by God first. It is connected. It has theological weight. It defines a specific group of people, those 'called to His purpose'. And who are then called? The justified; those of faith!

Romans 8:28

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

1. This verse of doctrine is so well known. It is 'truth' on so many levels. It does not say, 'some things' work together. No, it says 'all things', everything, nothing excluded, even the bad things, all evil, my bad week. The Word states clearly, 'all things work together for good'. His purposes are 'all good'. All things, good and evil, will work to 'the good' because of the agency of God. Such is the doctrine of God's Providence. In this one verse is 'God blessedness'. God is working, and 'all' circumstances, by and through Him, no exceptions, are to bring about His purposes. By God's Providence every single thing in our life is happening for His purposes to be made complete. God is using everything in our life for His purpose, and His purposes are good!

The good purpose of Romans 8, that is 'the glory that is to be revealed to us', is God's 'good' which is coming. It is what Creation is waiting for, and what we are 'waiting'

for and are 'groaning' for. This is not the good of a clever or even a godly consultant. No, it is the 'good' from and by God! This is 'good' that is 'unseen' now, yet it is 'good' that has manifestations even now along the way. We don't always see this 'good' at the time, but in hindsight we are able to see it. God gives us testimony to look back on and see how He is working in our lives. It is the 'unseen' goodness, for God is at work in all circumstances of each life. There is no 'non God' corner in our life. Nothing is too trivial, nothing too evil, nothing too small for God's Providence.

Matthew 6:26

*"Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"*

2. Verse 28 also states that 'all things' work together 'for good'. It does not say that 'all things' will work out for our comfort, or convenience, our safety, or as we expect, or as we would like, want or will. No. This verse states one blessed truth, that 'all things work together 'for good'. All good, and all God. Good is not always what we think is good. Good often hurts, and hurts a lot. Good is often not what we expect, or what we would want. God's 'good' and God's will conform to His Son, to the image of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:27, 29

*"And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ... 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."*

None of this can be true unless God is Sovereign. There is no other way. Chapters 9, 10 and 11 of Romans explores this truth further. God's plan and unfolding, the good and bad, are seen from Ancient times, God working out the many details. We note Joseph, who seemed doomed, having been ridiculed, sold, imprisoned, but Joseph understood it differently. He shares with his brothers that though they meant it for evil, God meant it for good.

Genesis 50:20

*"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."*

And Jeremiah speaks of Israel's exile, that when their seventy years of exile are completed in Babylon, God still has plans for Israel. Just as He had plans for Joseph in Egypt, God had a plan for Israel, both for the exile and for after.

Jeremiah 29:10

*"For thus says the LORD; When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place."*

Peter speaks of Jesus and how God arranged for His life here on earth by purpose and plan.

Acts 2:23

*"...this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men."*

This was God working, through specific intentions, and 'all for good'.

Acts 4:27-28

*"...for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place."*

We reflect on God's work: His use of 'evil men' to bring about the crucifixion, His use of 'evil brothers' to set Joseph in place to bring about salvation for Israel. We question how the cry of 'Crucify Him' could possibly bring about redemption. Yet God had worked out every last detail, and His plan and purpose made the way for His good purposes. It was so for Israel. It was so for the Church. What of your circumstances, your mourning, your sickness, your ill treatments, the corruption and evil surrounding you, the wicked agendas facing you? 'All of it', 'all of these things' are being worked together for the good of those who love God. This is 'the assurance of the good' as Sovereign God has designed and predestined, for His purposes.

## **II. THE GLORY: (vv. 29-30)**

Romans 8:29-30

*"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. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."*

Theologians refer to these verses as the 'Golden Chain', a link of divine initiatives, having divine inseparable connection, an observed detail between them, demonstrating 'eternal security': The thread linking that He 'foreknew' all the way to 'glory' for those who love God. If you truly are in the chain, you will not be removed from it. Paul states this in affirmation: He will hold us fast.

Philippians 1:6

*"And I am sure of this that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."*

Romans 8:29-30

*"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. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."*



This is God working His plan, every part connected. This is the great decree of God. It is 'the assurance of glory' from start to finish. What God speaks, God will bring to pass. Yes, God will complete what He has begun. God initiated the plan. God carries out the plan. God consummates the plan. It is His work, not ours, and therefore there is no concern. He 'foreknew' (v. 29), meaning that He knew beforehand.

1. 'Foreknew' is an Old Testament term meaning 'to know'. The implication from its Hebrew word 'yada' is to suggest intimacy, as in husband and wife intimacy, coming together and knowing each other.

Genesis 4:1

*"Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, 'I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD'."*

It was not about knowing facts and knowledge; it is about 'knowing someone'. Adam knew his wife. It was a covenant relationship. And God knew you 'intimately' before you could know Him. He knew you 'beforehand' in eternity past. Jeremiah writes of his own intimate relationship with God, and the first step of his being consecrated, for before his birth, Jeremiah was appointed to be a prophet, before he was even conceived and knit in his Mother's womb.

Jeremiah 1:4-5

*"Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,  
'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations'."*

And therefore, we know that God has not rejected Israel, for God chose Israel to be His in eternity past.

Romans 11:2

*"God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel?"*

And therefore, Israel cannot be rejected, cannot lose their status. God 'foreknew' Israel. Israel was chosen, and was 'intimately' set apart for God's purposes.

2. 'Foreknowledge' cannot be based on our future actions or else it would 'nullify' God's grace. This stated implication is laid out plainly by one commentator.

"In His omniscience, God is certainly able to look to the end of history and beyond and know in advance the minutest detail of the most insignificant occurrence. So we all say, 'Yes, of course, He can do that.' But did He? In salvation's case it is both illogical and unbiblical to argue from that truth, that the LORD just looked ahead to see who would believe and then chose that particular individual for salvation. If that were true, salvation not only would begin with man's faith, but would make God

obligated to grant it. In such a scheme God's initiative would be eliminated and His grace would be spoiled."

God initiated our salvation in 'eternity past'. He 'foreknew' us before we knew anything. He 'foreknew' Jeremiah. He 'foreknew' Israel. And He 'foreknew' us. He set us 'apart' for Himself. He 'foreknew' us, He 'predestined' us, and bound us in His purposes in a 'prior way'. Before we knew God, God called us and set us apart to be conformed to His Son.

Romans 8:29

*"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."*

It does not say 'predestined' to salvation (although that is a necessary prerequisite of Christ conformity). It does say that we are 'predestined' to His will and purposes.

Ephesians 1:11

*"In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will."*

Ephesians 1:3-6

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved."*

But to focus in on our Romans 8 text, after God 'foreknew' you He purposed you to be conformed to His Son. Yes salvation was required, but ultimately His purpose was 'slave transfer' so that you might become Christ-like, conformed to His image. This is what you were 'predestined' for, to be Christ-like, so that you would live life as you ought.

Romans 8:29

*"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."*

This is a matter of 'identity'. It is family language; Christ the eldest brother, the 'firstborn' of all Creation.

Colossians 1:15, 18

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ... And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent."*

Christ, the 'firstborn', is the 'firstfruit', the first before us. He is Head of the Church. Christ was first in death, first in resurrection, first in a glorified body.

Romans 8:23

*"And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies."*

This was God's plan, from eternity past, Christ before us, and then we too; death first, and then resurrection.

I Corinthians 15:35-36, 40-57

*"But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ... So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, 'The first man Adam became a living being', the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. I tell you this, brothers; flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on the immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:*

*'Death is swallowed up in victory.*

*O death, where is your victory?*

*O death, where is your sting?'*

*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

God created Adam and Eve in His image to worship and live for Him. But they rebelled and separated themselves from God, and all after them. His image was marred. God's plan was renovation and renewal. And God sent Christ. God's plan was to bring a 'remnant' of humanity back to restore through the 'elder brother'. Christ went first. It was Christ's conformity that is the implication of your salvation. It was/is an unstoppable process.

Romans 8:30

*"And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."*

Romans 8:28

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

God 'called', 'justified', and 'glorified'. The idea is that the 'purposed' ones are the 'called' ones. He 'foreknew', 'predestined', and 'called'; this is not a general call. While there is a general call, one that is not specific, in Romans 10, the Romans 8 call is 'an effectual call', an inward call to the heart. To receive this call means that you were 'foreknown' and 'predestined' to be 'conformed' to the Son. This 'call' cannot be resisted. It is part of God's 'plan'. He is not calling just anyone to Christ's 'conformity'. If God has called the 'foreknown' and the 'predestined', it would make no sense to resist, for this is a 'holy calling'. It is specific, not general, and it is a 'calling' given before the ages began. This is God 'calling' His own; it is an 'effectual call' to those whom the Father draws.

II Timothy 1:9

*"[God], who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began."*

John 6:37

*"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out."*

John 6:44

*"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day."*

The Father 'draws' those whom He has 'called', but not all are 'called' and 'drawn'. How do we reconcile this? Jesus said:

Matthew 22:14

*"For many are called, but few are chosen."*

Many are 'called' generally. This is the heart of the Gospel. But few are 'chosen'; few receive the 'effectual call', few have been 'predestined'. This elective calling, this new position in Christ, was previously covered in Romans 3, 4 and 5. It deals with 'justification' and new 'righteousness' in Christ.

Romans 3:22a, 24

*"... the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe... and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."*

But before we were 'justified', we were 'pre-known' and 'called'. It is an unbreakable link!

Romans 8:29

*"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."*

Those He 'justified' He 'glorified'. It is a process. 'Justification' is not the end. 'Glory' is yet to be rewarded.

Romans 8:18

*"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."*

Romans 8:30

*"And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."*

"He also glorified." This is the completed action of the process. We note the past tense of the statement. Why is this?

1. We are not yet glorified in body, but if a Christian, the Holy Spirit is in you. You have a 'regenerated' heart and therefore a 'glorified' soul.
2. He has decreed it to be so "in eternity come" and therefore it is done.

Psalm 2:7

*"I will tell of the decree:  
The LORD said to me, 'You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you."*

Therefore it is done, and will be done, joined together with other complete actions: 'foreknown', 'predestined', 'chosen', and 'justified'.

Salvation starts out and moves toward 'glory' building upon the image of the Creator, continually being transformed into the image of Christ. This is 'glory' unending.

Colossians 3:9b-10

*"... you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator."*

II Corinthians 3:18

*"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."*

One simple takeaway. The sin, the suffering, the groaning and grief, the hardship, and persecution yet to come, etcetera, all the things that are yet to come, all are being worked out for 'our glory' in Him. Therefore be encouraged in that because of, and in Christ. He is our assurance.