



Romans 8:18,28 - "18 Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later... 28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them (NLT)."

God's word in Romans 8:28. Paul wrote, "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them (NLT)." Have you ever bought a product and along with it you received a guarantee or a warranty that says if anything goes wrong with it, it will either be repaired or it will be replaced? Well, Romans 8:28 is "God's Unfailing Guarantee!" Let's learn

#### FOUR THINGS ABOUT GOD'S GUARANTEE:

##### I. CERTAIN

Romans 8:28a - "And we know..." God's guarantee is certain. Paul says, "We know" There are no IFs and BUTs about it. It is an ironclad guarantee! Why was Paul so sure about God's guarantee? There are several reasons.

1. God's Character. The guarantee is not based upon human's mind and character. The guarantee is based upon the rock of God's faultless character. God is a good God. There are many scriptures that talk about the goodness of God. Psalm 145:9a - "The Lord is good to everyone... (NLT)." Mark 10:18b - "No one is good except God alone (ESV)." God is good and that is His nature. This is why He is a loving Father who wants to provide for your needs. He is so good that He cannot lie and He is faithful to His words and promises. God is so good this is why He has to punish those who do evil.

2. Our experience. Our experience is another reason that we are certain God will honor His guarantee or promise. Once you experienced something, nobody has to prove it to you.

It was true in the life of the apostle Paul. Paul lived to preach the gospel. He lived to start churches. He lived to disciple Christians. But...for several years Paul found himself in jail in Rome. And you would have thought Paul would have looked at being in prison and said, "Oh, this is terrible! This is awful!" and he would have moaned and groaned and complained. But look at Philippians 1:12, "And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News (NLT)."

##### II. COMPLETE

Romans 8:28b - "...God causes EVERYTHING...(NLT)." Do you know from personal experience that it's true? Again, "God causes EVERYTHING work together for the good..." Now, if you are looking at the Bible again, I want you to misread it. Look at verse 28 "And we know God causes MOST THINGS to work together for the good..." or "And we know God causes SOME THINGS to work together for the good..."

##### 1. Pleasant Experiences = GOOD

Romans 8:28c - "...for the good..." "Pleasant experiences" equal "GOOD." You say, Absolutely! We all know "good things" cause us to be happy and "good things" lead to other "good things." If you would stop for just a moment and count your blessings, I think everybody in this room would have to admit God has been good to you. You have had a lot of pleasant experiences in your life.

##### 2. Painful Experiences = GOOD

Painful experiences can also equal to "good." This is where we're going to get deeper in just a moment. You say, "How in the world does that work?" Romans 8:28a - "And we know that God causes everything to work together... (NLT)." Sometimes it is the affliction and problems and pain that drive us to our knees. God always meets us at the point of desperation. God can take bad things and turn them into good.

##### III. COMPASSIONATE

Romans 8:28b - "...God causes everything to work together for the good... (NLT)." When I memorized Romans 8:28, I memorized it in the King James Version. It says, "For we know that all things work together for good (KJV)." Let me just inform you. Not everything that happens to our life came from God. Divorce, cancer, crime, rape, robbery that could happen to a person or family does not come from God. These bad stuff are not God's will. Proverbs 19:3 says, "People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the Lord (NLT)."

God is such a compassionate God that He can take all of these bad things and even turn them into good. With our compassionate God, He can take bad experiences of our lives that are bitter or bad and put them in the oven of His omnipotence to produce what is good for you.

##### IV. CONDITIONAL

Romans 8:28c - "...for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them (NLT)." Who benefits? There are some conditions or qualifications attached to God's guarantee. The promise of Romans 8:28 is NOT for everybody. The guarantee is limited. For instance, if you buy a product and you use it for something it was not made for, then you're not going to get your money back.

It says, "for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." So, there are two brackets: On one side those who love God and on the other side those who are called according to His purpose. Anyone outside those brackets cannot claim this promise. For instance, a man who never gave God any attention, who never prayed, never worshiped God. Then, he steals a car, robs a bank, and shoots the guard dead. He is arrested, tried and convicted. He is sentenced to die and is on death row. He cannot claim Romans 8:28. Do you know why? He doesn't love God; he's not called according to God's purpose.

The Bible talks about the thing God desires and requires of us. God wants a personal relationship. Do you truly love God? Let us assess with this verse: 1 John 4:20 says, "If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see (NLT)?" In addition, Jesus said in John 14:15, "If you love me, obey my commandments (NLT)." If there's any area of your life where you are not willing to obey God, don't say you love Him.

Second, Do you live your life according to God's purpose? Do you want to know what God's purpose is for your life? Look at Romans 8:29 "For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters (NLT)." God wants to make us more like Jesus every day in every way. Do you want to become more like Jesus or are you more interested in being the person you dreamt of becoming?



- 1.) Describe your relationship with God today?
  - 2.) What makes it difficult for you to approach God?
  - 3. What can you say about God's unfailing guarantee to us ?
- Pray for each other in your group.