All Things Work Together For Good

Tony Mauck · Romans 8:28

INTRODUCTION

- And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, and to those who are called according to his purpose.
- But if we love him, we will keep his commandments.
- The called are those who respond to God's calling.

1 Not Promising Better Temporal Circumstances

Romans 8:18–27; 2 Corinthians 4:7–18; 1 Peter 4:12–18

- For I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that will be revealed to us.
- God is making no promises that he will alleviate or eliminate suffering for the righteous in the present time.
- For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison. That's Romans 8.28.
- It is with difficulty that the righteous are saved.
- God causes all things to work together for good. Is not promising better temporal circumstances. The context bears that out. But he does tell us that there is assurance and hope for the future.

2 All Things Rarely Means All Things

1 Corinthians 3:21–23; Romans 8:32; Acts 8:1–4

- Sin can never be in the good category. You're never better for having sin.
- God doesn't cause sin to work together for good. Only our recovery from sin.
- All things rarely means all things. It usually has some limiting factor in the context.
- All things doesn't mean absolutely everything. It means all things of a particular kind or sort. We have all things that matter spiritually in Christ.
- The things themselves may not be good, but God harmonizes them together for the believer's ultimate good, because his goal is to bring them to perfection in his presence.

3 What Is Good? God Defines What Good Is

Mark 10:28–30; 1 Timothy 1:8; Romans 5:1–5

- Well, what is good exactly? God defines what good is.
- You'll receive a hundred times as much in this present life along with persecutions.
- We've got to let God define what's good for us. I'll tell you what's good is God's instruction.
- Good is what emanates from God. Good is what prepares us for the future.

- We exult in tribulations. Knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance. And proven character hope. A hope that does not disappoint.

THE CHALLENGE

You're going to hope in your love of God and His love for you. And you're going to stake all that you are on the reliability of His will and the certainty of His reward for the faithful.

MY NOTES