

Romans #122

“God, behind the scenes,  
before time began”

*Romans 8:29-30*

Believers fall into either of 2 categories; those consistently living according to the flesh or sin nature, in a death-like existence similar to unbelievers so they can't please God or those living according to the Holy Spirit, experiencing the fulness of an uncommon abundant life that Jesus promised to all who seek it.

What often appears to be meaningless is not at all; there's a purpose to everything that happens around us.

God works through human history to accomplish His fantastic purpose; to have many adult sons who love Him with all their hearts.

*To accomplish His purpose, God called the world into existence, structuring the universe, populating the earth*

*with man, permitting him to fall and then sending to this sin-sick planet, His own beloved Son in whom He was always well pleased to endure our cross and rise again*

*on the third day to demonstrate that He clearly works*

*all things together for good to those who love Him, who are the called according to His magnificent purpose.*

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Co-heirs with Jesus Christ are expressed by the *if* clause that if we indeed suffer with Him, we'll also be glorified with Him.

To suffer with Jesus Christ is to experience undeserved suffering which combined with consistent intake of biblical truth brings spiritual growth based on obedience which teaches us through our suffering.

*Suffering is part of the plan of God and it's how*

*He determined to bring us to maturity, preparing us for a future where we will rule and reign with Jesus Christ.*

**All three potentials and resulting hopes make up the plan of God for the human race and these hopes are the anchors for momentum in the Christian life providing great confidence toward the present and the future.**

Our third potential is great blessing and reward at the Bema Seat, so hope 3 is absolute confidence of receiving blessing and reward in eternity because we already have the reality of the blessings of hope 2 in spiritual maturity plus the necessary biblical truth to produce hope 3 which is always related to undeserved suffering, so we're always blessed during this suffering.

**The glory of Jesus Christ is far greater than anything else we could possibly value in time.**

Hope 3 is the highest motivation in life because with it, we are able to face the worst of reality with the greatest of blessing, confidence and powerful thinking.

*The believer who puts his personal injustices and national disaster in the hands of the supreme court of Heaven, will not be distracted from walking through the door of hope under God's agenda.*

In the context of Romans 8, God's sovereign plan includes all the details and events of human history; especially the undeserved suffering of the believer to bring him to spiritual maturity and glorification of Jesus Christ, so he can rule and reign with Him in His Millennial kingdom.

**God's faithfulness is His perfect consistency with His character and promises.**

God's faithfulness is always related to His righteousness and justice, His love and His truth, meaning He is the only dependable reality.