



Hill Cliffe Study Guide
Sunday 17 March 2024
#5 Romans 8 Verses 28-30

1. What impacted you most from Sunday's sermon?
2. How is God speaking to you from the daily devotionals?

Please read Romans 8:28-30

"Sometimes it seems hard to understand what God is doing in our lives – He can seem silent or absent to us. But the truth is that in all circumstances God is working for the good of his people according to His purpose." John Stott, The Message of Romans

Following the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians the Jews were taken into exile in Babylon. 2 very contrasting opinions of what would be a 'good' response to the situation appear in scripture. One from the Psalmist in **Psalm 137.1-4,7-9**, and one from God in **Jeremiah 29.7,10-11**

3. How do they differ? How do they reveal a different kind of understanding of, and purpose for, God's people in the world?
4. Sometimes, like the Psalmist, we want to impose our understanding and purpose on God for what we think is best for our lives and the lives of others, rather than seek his understanding and purpose for the situation. How is this dangerous? Where have you done this in your own life?

*Romans 8. 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, **who have been called according to his purpose.***

29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

*Foreknew – Known and loved by God before we came to be... Read **Deut 7.6-8; Ephesians 1.4-6***
*Predestined – Chosen beforehand by God with a clear sense of purpose and destiny for our lives. Chosen to be ADOPTED into God's Family – a 'holy and blameless people' – in Christ. Chosen also to be 'conformed into the Image of His Son', for the purpose of living as image-bearers of God's Son in this world, as Christ's AMBASSADORS... Read **1 Peter 2.9-10; Phil 2.12-16; Matt 5.13-16; Matt 28.18-20** – so that Christ 'might be the firstborn among MANY brothers and sisters.'*

5. What is our calling from God? How do we best live out our God-intended destiny and purpose in this world?

Romans 8.30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

From Pam's daily devotional for this verse... *In this verse we see the eternal chain of God's working; God is fully invested in His plan for us and is fully committed to seeing it through. To put it another way, "God hasn't brought us this far to only bring us this far", there is an ongoing objective and purpose - in us – for others – for the whole of his creation. These actions of God demonstrate how God is moving irresistibly from stage to stage – like links in a chain – each of which is unbreakable. God will fulfil his purpose in the lives of His people.*

6. What then shall we say in response to these things?