

Easy As 1-2-3



Romans 8:28-39¹

It's As Easy As 1-2-3

Select where you would like to begin and enjoy!

[1-Overall Understanding \(below\)](#)

[2- Detailed Study Notes](#)

[3-Listen and Learn](#)

Overall Understanding

Chapter 8:28-39²

This chapter is full of glorious truths about the freedom that is ours. It is the capstone on top of all he has said in chapters 1-7.

These last verses amplify the glories of what God has done in Christ.

Enjoy!

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

It is not untrue to say that God causes all things to work together for good, but the text does not say this. It says, "All things work together for good..." It is a principle that God established that is constantly in motion.

This also DOES NOT MEAN that because God can cause things to work for our good, that he sent those things in the first place.

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God does not need evil to bring about good. He is perfectly capable of speaking to us without Satan's help. He leads us like a shepherd through it all.

²⁹For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be conformed* to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

One must not take these verses out of order to substantiate a false narrative about predestination. Scripture teaches that God wants all to be saved, and Jesus said that WHOEVER believes in Him will not perish.

- God knew in advance who would receive Him. It does not say he chose who would come to Him.
- For those who would come to Him, he predestined **them** to be conformed to the image of His Son. This does not say he predestined some and others not.
- Those He predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, He called. Again, he is calling all who believe.
- He called us to be made righteous.
- He called those made righteous to be glorified.

Notice the use of the past tense.

Also, the fact that it says we were **glorified** is stunning. This word is almost always used in reference to God. This is NOT AT ALL to say that we are gods, but that He esteems us with honor.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

What do we say in response to these truths?

Not IF God is for us, but SINCE God is for us. There is no power greater than God, and He is FOR us. Nothing can be against us.

Even if killed for the gospel, we win.

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Paul is answering his own question. What shall we say to these truths?

God did not spare Jesus and gave Him in death FOR US. He gave His best. How could it be possible that He would withhold anything good from us?

He freely gives us all things.

³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. ³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

This is why no demonic power can accuse us.

We are God's elect.
He makes us righteous.

This is why no one can condemn us (sentence us negatively).

Christ died for us.
Jesus rose from the dead for us.
He is at the right hand of God.
He makes intercession FOR us.

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

One possible perspective here is that we SAY to these things what God has accomplished. We speak to our mountains: to tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or sword; this is what we say:

MY GOD IS FOR ME, NOT AGAINST ME.

SEE WHAT HE HAS DONE AND DOES FOR ME.

“For Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”

Paul isn't saying that this is true about us, but that the opposite is actually true about us.

³⁷Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

This point is HE LOVES US. This is how and why we conquer.

Galatians 2:20

*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, **who loved me and gave Himself for me.***

³⁸For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nothing can separate us from His love for us. Even when we fall short, the blood of Jesus is cleansing us from all sin.

Some have said that when we sin, we open the door for Satan, but this cannot be true. Our sins are all forgiven, so even if we fall short, we are already forgiven. There is no gap for Satan to take advantage of.

Now sinning has natural consequences. Sexual immorality can result in disease. Breaking civil laws can land us in jail. Being a difficult person can wound relationships. Our ungodly behavior can defame the God we love. BUT NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM HIS LOVE, not even our mistakes.

He has promised to never leave us or forsake us; no, not ever!

*We hope you have enjoyed your study of
“The Gift of Righteousness.”*