

# The Blessings of Loving God

Rom 8:28

- 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.  
NKJV

# We Know

- Paul is certain about this.
- Someone who had never had any problems and never experienced any trials might think so.
- This is not a knowledge only for the privileged.

# All Things Work Together

- This is the hard part.
  - ▶ If it said most things, or some things.
  - ▶ But it says all things work together.
  - ▶ It is not always obvious how these things could be for our good.

# For Good

- It does not say ease or pleasure.
- God has the ability to cause even the wrath of men to praise Him
  - ▶ Ps 76:10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain. KJV
  - ▶ There are hundreds of examples in the Old Testament where God turned the sinfulness of man to bring about His purpose and glory.

# Look at some examples.

- ▶ **Joseph**

- ▶ **Job**

- ▶ **Paul**

- **2 Cor 4:7-11** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. 8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken ; struck down, but not destroyed — 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. NKJV

- **Acts 9:15-16** "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." NKJV

- ▶ **Mary and Martha in John 11**

# What about all the people Jesus healed.

- The lepers Jesus cleansed. Mt 8:3 among others.
- The man who was cripple for 38 years. John 5:5
- The widow whose son died and was raised by Jesus Luke 7
- The Demoniac of the Gadarenes in Mark 5
  - He never would have sat at Jesus feet, a testimony to the power of God unless he and wondered among the tombs.
- The daughter of that Syrophenician woman of Mat 15:22
  - No one would have ever knew of her great faith unless he daughter was ill.
  - Here she was an example of patience and grace.
- The man born blind is the key to the above examples.
  - The disciples wondered what sin had been committed that this man should have been born blind.
  - Jesus said that it was not because of sin but for the Glory of God that the man was born blind and then Jesus made him see.

# To Them That Love God

- All of this is specifically promised to those who love God.
- Everyone else is on their own.
- There is no purpose, no guarantee for good.
- It is true that God sends the rain on the just and the unjust but God's special providence if only for His own.

# To Them That Are Called According to His Purpose

- Have you experienced the call of God on your life.
- Salvation is not a self-help program.
- If God has called you and you have repented of sins and turned in faith to Him, then His love for Him is real.