

Date: 06.09.2020

Time: 11am

Service taken by: Rev Gavino Fioretti

Reading: Romans 8

Outline: Certain glorification

a) Introduction

1. God' side

2. God' Son

3. God's salvation

4. God's love

Certain glorification

- Introduction

Paul comforted the Roman people that despite the trials and tribulations, they had an eternal destination. They were foreknown by God, predestined and would be glorified. This glorification is certain. Paul reminds the people that their salvation was sure and unshakable. We're reminded in this passage that once saved, always saved. Sometimes we who believe in the certainty of our salvation might, as we struggle with sin, be tempted to fear our eternal destination. We need to be reminded that our salvation is sure because of God.

1) God' side (v. 31)

His presence: There are enemies and dangers all around us, but on our side is One greater than them all. God is for us and He is with us – we enjoy something that the rest of the world cannot enjoy. In Psalm 139, David says that God is with him all the time, even in the darkest of places. We don't see Him, but the Almighty God is with us all the time.

His protection: Not only is God present with us, but He is protecting us and delivering us. No sin or opposition is bigger than the One who is fighting for us. He is involved in all of our salvation and in all of our daily living.

If God is for us, how can we be lost or be in danger of losing our salvation? Without Him, we could not stand. But we are not alone – He is with us. The devil, the world and our own deceitful hearts will fight against our spiritual good, but God is for us and so we've nothing to fear. As you struggle, remember that you're not alone.

2) God' Son

If our salvation and glorification depended on us, we'd have no hope. But our salvation is built on the Son of God.

His being given: (v. 32) We could be spared because God spared not His own Son. Our sin was condemned in the Person of Jesus and so there is now no condemnation for us. We are no longer afraid of God's righteousness. Christ was given – we will be given all that we need. God the Father was willing to give you His most precious – His Son – He knows and will give you all that you need. He sacrificed His own Son and makes sure that His death was not in vain.

His dying: (v. 32; v. 34) The wages of sin is death. We all come short of the glory of God. We deserve Hell, but Jesus died for us. He carried our sin, He bore our iniquity, He took our sin and guilt – we can now stand before God without fear of judgement. You won't have eternal death, but eternal life is now certain because Jesus died for your sin.

His being raised: (v. 34) The resurrection is the seal that the work of Christ was done and was and is today sufficient. The tomb is empty. Jesus lives. Death is defeated and Christ defeated it through the resurrection. Jesus was given on our behalf and He defeated death once and for all. Death cannot defeat God. Our salvation is certain.

His sitting at the right hand of God: (v. 34) Christ is sitting at the right hand of God and is interceding for us. This gives us the picture that He is praying for us and in a reverent way reminding the Father that our debt is paid and He speaks well of us. But there's a deeper meaning in this. Jesus intercedes for us by sitting at the right hand of God. The high priest in the Old Testament had to sacrifice daily for the sins of the people, but Jesus' sacrifice was once and for all. We have an Advocate before the Father. Every time we sin and fall, we have an Advocate before God and so it's impossible for us to lose our salvation. Our salvation cannot be lost, our glorification is sure. There is no more condemnation. It's impossible to lose your salvation.

3) God's salvation (v. 33)

Election: Predestination means that we are chosen, predestined by God to be a Christian. Our will changes, but God's will and choice is immovable. His will is eternal. If God has planned and willed your salvation, you will be saved.

Justification: We are accused on every side. We are accused by the devil, but God justifies. We are accused by the world, but God justifies. We are accused by our own conscience, but God justifies. It doesn't matter what we feel, or what the world says about us – it matters what God says about us. Christ makes us righteous – His righteousness is imputed to us. God has justifies us and so we will be glorified.

4) God's love (vv. 35-39)

We're chosen, justified, the Son has died for us and He intercedes for us because we're the object of God's love. He saves us.

Foundational: The love of God is the foundation of our salvation. God's love for us is the only hope we have to be saved. He loves us today and will keep loving us into the future.

Certain: You might doubt God's love for you. Sin makes you think you've gone too far, but nothing can separate us from His love. It is certain. We question and doubt His love for us so many times. We can be sure that once loved by God, we're forever loved by God.

Unchangeable: His love is immutable and unchanging. There's nothing we can do to make God love us more and there's nothing we can do to make Him love us less. He loves us just as much when we read our Bibles as when we don't. He loves us when we're faithful to Him, He loves us when we're unfaithful. He loves us just as much when we're in sin. He loved Peter when Peter denied that he even knew Jesus. His love is fixed, it's unchanging. God loves us with His perfect, eternal love.

So our salvation cannot be lost because He never stops loving us. We don't love God as we should, some days we might not think we love Him at all. But in spite of our coldness of our hearts, and our spiritual hardness, He loves us. As God sees His church and His children, He loves us with the same love as He loves the Son with. How could He love us so much and send us into a lost eternity? God can save us and give us eternal life – nothing can stop Him. Believer, whatever you think of yourself, or whatever others think of you, you are loved. You are loved by God and so an eternity of goodness and blessing is before you.