

God's Providential Goodness
Romans 8:26-30 (p. #944 in pew Bible)

Big Idea: God providentially works all things for good for all His children.

“Providence may be defined as *that continued exercise of the divine energy whereby the Creator preserves all His creatures, is operative in all that comes to pass in the world, and directs all things to their appointed end*” (Louis Berkhof).¹

“Providence is the theological term for *the continuous going forth of God's power whereby He causes all features of the created universe to fulfil the design for which He created them*” (Robert Culver).

I. If you are a Christian, God's providential goodness overshadows every aspect of your life. (8:26-28)

A. God personally helps His children when they are overcome with weakness, especially weakness in prayer. (Luke 10:38-42)

¹ “The Bible clearly teaches God's providential control (1) over the universe at large, Ps. 103:19; Dan. 5:35; Eph. 1:11; (2) over the physical world, Job 37:5,10; Ps. 104:14; 135:6; Matt. 5:45; (3) over the brute creation, Ps. 104:21,28; Matt. 6:26; 10:29; (4) over the affairs of nations, Job 12:23; Ps. 22:28; 66:7; Acts 17:26; (5) over man's birth and lot in life, I Sam. 16:1; Ps. 139:16; Isa. 45:5; Gal. 1:15,16; (6) over the outward successes and failures of men's lives, Ps. 75:6,7; Luke 1:52; (7) over things seemingly accidental or insignificant, Prov. 16:33; Matt. 10:30; (8) in the protection of the righteous, Ps. 4:8; 5:12; 63:8; 121:3; **Rom. 8:28**; (9) in supplying the wants of God's people, Gen. 22:8,14; Deut. 8:3; Phil. 4:19; (10) in giving answers to prayer, I Sam. 1:19; Isa. 20:5,6; II Chron. 33:13; Ps. 65:2; Matt. 7:7; Luke 18:7,8; and (11) in the exposure and punishment of the wicked, Ps. 7:12,13; 11:6.”

- B.** The Triune God (Father, Son, Spirit) **prays** for His children with perfect and powerful **omniscience**. *(Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25)*
- II.** If you are a Christian, God’s providential goodness overshadows every aspect of your **salvation**. **(8:29-30)**
- A.** God is fully **engaged** in the life of every Christian.
- B.** If you are a Christian, God has **called** you to salvation—He has **foreknown, predetermined, predestined,** and **called** you to salvation.
- C.** If you are a Christian, God has **justified** you and in His providence He will **glorify** your body and soul in His eternal, heavenly Kingdom. *(Romans 8:23-25)*

Application

1. Do you love God **His way**—according to His Word? What **fruit** do you have in your life that shows that **you are a true Christian who loves God His way?** *(Matthew 22:37-40)*
2. If you are a Christian, **rest in God’s providential goodness** that overshadows every aspect of your life and salvation. *(Hebrews 4:9-15)*
3. If you are not a Christian, **repent of sin and find true rest through saving faith in Jesus Christ.** *(Matthew 11:28-30)*