

Principles of Spiritual Growth:



The Principle of Purpose

November 27, 2011

Text: Romans 8:28-29

***Applying the Bible to
Everyday Life***

Romans 8:28

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

Romans 8:29

⌘ For those whom He *foreknew*, He also *predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son*, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

Last week...

⌘...one of man's
most powerful “felt
needs” ...the
“need” to be
accepted

This week...

**⌘...an even more
powerful “felt need” ...
the need to have
meaning and purpose
in our lives.**

People seem...

⌘...to be wondering
aimlessly about with
little *direction* or
purpose

The Principle Of

Purpose

God is working to conform every believer to the image of Christ, providentially directing all of life's events to accomplish that *purpose.*

The Principle Of

Purpose...

...is supported by three pillars:

God's *providence*

God's *plan*

God's *purpose*

The Principle Of

Purpose...

**...is rooted and
grounded in God's
divine *providence.***

Romans 8:28

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

God's Providence...

⌘...is the

outworking of

God's sovereignty.

Sovereignty...

⌘...means that God is
in *control*

⌘He is the absolute
Master of His universe

Sovereignty...

⌘...means that God
has complete
ownership

⌘He owns everything,
without exception

Sovereignty...

⌘...means that God is the ultimate authority

⌘He has the absolute right to impose His will upon His creatures, but He is never arbitrary.

In every situation...

**⌘...God either allows
events and directly
causes other events and
then harmonizes those
events for our good and
His glory.**

Application

⌘ We should strive to see God's hand in every situation because He is *providentially* involved in *every aspect* of a believer life.

The Principle Of

Purpose...

**...is rooted and
grounded in God's
divine *plan*.**

Romans 8:29

⌘ For those whom He *foreknew*, He also *predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son*, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

God's Plan...

⌘...is to conform every believer to the image of Christ for our good and His glory.

God's plan...

⌘...involves

**foreknowledge, where
God chooses to be in
relationship with those
that He foreknows**

God's plan...

⌘...involves

foreordination, where

God's *sovereignly*

decrees what will must

come to pass.

Foreordination...

⌘...is the mechanism that God uses to control is universe

⌘Foreordination is God's decree ahead of time that things will come to pass.

God's foreordains...

⌘...who will be
chosen for
salvation...this is
called *election*

God's foreordains...

⌘...that the elect will believe the gospel and be saved...this is called *predestination*

Application

⌘ We should cooperate with God as He *works* to conform us into the *image of His Son*.

The Principle Of

Purpose...

***...is rooted and
grounded in God's
divine purpose.***

Romans 8:28

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

Romans 8:29

⌘ For those whom He *foreknew*, He also *predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son*, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

God's Purpose...

⌘...is simple:
our good and
His glory.

Application

⌘ We should align ourselves with God's *purpose* because He is harmonizing all events in history so that they work together for *our* good and *His* glory.