

ROMANS 31 – 8:26-28

Prayer and the Spirit's Help

1. Review

- a. Saved by hope must be renewed each trouble filled day – 2 Cor 4:16, Eph 3:16
- b. *"Likewise"* – ch. 8 reveals the Spirit's ministry of help to us – 8:2, 9, 11, 13-16

2. 8:26

- a. Paul is talking about patience in suffering, and the hope of glory
- b. In suffering prayer is natural, but usually to remove it, not get through it -Phil 4:7
- c. Prayer according to God's will is unnatural; b/c we don't know what to pray for
- d. Ask & receive promises were for Spirit filled NT Israel- Mat 7:7, 21:22, John 14:13
- e. God is not a vending machine, genie in a lamp, rabbits foot, or your Mr. Fix-it
- f. God's will is for us to walk after the Spirit, to be sons, conquerors – Rom 8:37
- g. We pray to get what we need, but the *need* may be different in God's will -1Tim 2

3. 8:26-27

- a. Our problem in prayer is Gal 5:16-17, we ask for our flesh; we need – 2 Cor 4:8-10
- b. Bad things will happen. The inner man strength determines how it affects you.
- c. *"makes intercession"*... when? In our infirmity, when we groan, in our need
- d. *"intercession for us"*- He intercedes between God and us, but we need the help
- e. The Spirit can teach us how to pray, love, hope, do God's will; etc – 1 Cor 2:9-16
- f. *"groaning which cannot be uttered"* – he knows the real problem, and meets it
- g. There is a supply to our need in God's will that the Spirit provides - Phil 1:19
- h. There are lessons we must learn, doctrines we must hold fast – 2 Cor 12:7-10
- i. God answers prayers after the Spirit for his word to work in us – Eph 3:20

4. 8:28

- a. This is a hopeful verse about God's purpose in us through infirmities
- b. *"we know"* – which is to say we already do, although most quote this blind
- c. We know things unsearchable, unknown, and secret before: the mystery
- d. To read this we must be dead to sin, crucified, dead to law, spiritually minded
- e. *"all things"* = abundance, or suffering, life or death – Phil 4:11-14
- f. *"work together for good"* –not your will (pleasure, money, career), but God's
- g. *"good"* – your glorification; and now toward greater faith, hope, charity
- h. *"love God"* – which speaks to his will, 1 Cor 8:3, 16:22; 2 Cor 5:14-15
- i. *"are the called..."* – by the gospel to be in Christ to do his will – 1 Cor 1:9, Eph 4:1
- j. *"according to HIS purpose"* – not, "your best life", "a perfect plan", but Eph 1:9

Things the Spirit Does in Ministry for Us

1. He seals us to the day of redemption– Eph 1:13
2. He gives us life – Rom 8:2, 8:10
3. He makes us free from sin and death – Rom 8:2
4. He fulfills righteousness in us – Rom 8:4
5. He gives us a spiritual mind – Rom 8:5-6
6. He dwells in us – Rom 8:9, 1 Cor 6:19
7. He quickens our mortal bodies – Rom 8:11
8. He opposes the flesh – Gal 5:17, Rom 8:13
9. He leads us in our walk – Rom 8:14
10. He gives us the adoption as sons of God – Rom 8:15
11. He bears witness with us that we are God’s heirs – Rom 8:16
12. He gives us the promise of glorification – Rom 8:17-18, Eph 1:14
13. He helps our infirmities – Rom 8:26
14. He makes intercession when we are ignorant – Rom 8:26
15. He teaches us how things can work together for good – Rom 8:28
16. He reveals the mystery truth – Eph 3:5
17. He builds the church – 1 Cor 3:16, Eph 2:22
18. Gave gifts to the church –1 Cor 12:4-7
19. Baptized us into Christ – 1 Cor 12:13
20. Gave us newness of life in Christ – Rom 6:4
21. He inspired all of scripture – 2 Pet 1:21
22. He bears fruit in us who follow him – Gal 5:22-23
23. He justified, sanctified, and will glorify us – 1 Cor 6:11
24. He gives us unity in the church, without judgment – Eph 4:3-4
25. He supplies our need in prayer– Phil 1:19
26. He gives us hope – Rom 5:4
27. He keeps our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus – 2 Cor 1:22, Phil 4:7
28. He gives us strength from Christ to be more than conquerors – Eph 3:16, Rom 8:37