

The Great Guarantee of the Golden Chain of Salvation.

Romans 8:28–30

Romans 8:28–30 (NKJV)

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. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Introduction:

John 6:35–40 (NKJV)

³⁵ And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. ³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no

means cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Review

Romans 8:28–30 (NKJV)

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.

²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son,

Let me briefly remind you of why Paul is referring to Predestination with the intended goal to make us like Christ.

Remember
He said

Romans 8:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

Romans 8:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Romans 8:22–23 (NKJV)

²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. ²³ Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Romans 8:28–29 (NKJV)

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. ²⁹ **For** whom He

foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

hoti: that, because

Original Word: ὅτι

Part of Speech: Conjunction

Transliteration: hoti

Phonetic Spelling: (hot'-ee)

Definition: that, because

Usage: that, since, because; may introduce direct discourse.

29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son,
that He might be the
firstborn among many brethren.

Smith's Literal Translation

For whom he before knew, he also before determined of the form of the image of his Son, for him to be first born in many brethren.

prototokos: first-born

Original Word: ΠΡΩΤΟΤΟΚΟΣ, ΟΥ

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: prototokos

Phonetic Spelling: (pro-tot-ok'-os)

Definition: first-born

Usage: first-born, eldest.

4416 prōtōtokos (from 4413 /prōtos, "first, pre-eminent" and 5088 /tíktō, "bring forth") – properly, first in time (Mt 1:25; Lk 2:7); hence, pre-eminent (Col 1:15; Rev 1:5).

4416 /prōtōtokos ("firstly") specifically refers to Christ as the first to experience glorification, i.e. at His resurrection (see Heb 12:23; Rev 1:5). For this (and countless other reasons) Jesus is "preeminent" (4416 /prōtōtokos) – the unequivocal Sovereign over all creation (Col 1:16).

[4416 (prōtōtokos) refers to "the first among others (who follow)" – as with the preeminent, glorified Christ, the eternal Logos who possesses self-existent life (Jn 5:26).]

Colossians 1:15–18 (NKJV)

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning,

the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Hebrews 1:5–6 (NKJV)

⁵ For to which of the angels did He ever say:

*“You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You”?*

And again:

*“I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son”?*

⁶ But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says:

“Let all the angels of God worship Him.”

Revelation 1:5 (NKJV)

⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

In Jewish culture the term **first-born** always referred to a son, unless a daughter was specifically stated.

Because the **first-born** male child in a Jewish family had a privileged status, the term was often used figuratively to represent preeminence. In the present context that is clearly the meaning.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1991). [Romans](#) (Vol. 1, p. 492). Chicago: Moody Press.

This preeminence is seen in
Philippians 2:9–11 (NKJV)

⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son,
that He might be the
firstborn among many brethren.

This is beautiful...we deserved nothing but hell, and yet Christ does not just save us, he does not

just make us his servants but he brings us into the family through adoption and makes us brothers.

God's desire of us is not just to save us for his glory and to have us be the eternal displays of trophies of grace, But He desires intimacy with us.

The Eternal One desires to have genuine, real, intimate fellowship with his creation.

The firstborn is, of course, the most important of the children. He is the heir and the one singled out for special honor. But firstborn implies “later born”; the term points to others who will in due course be members of the family. Paul is saying that it was always in God’s plan that there might be many in his family, children who look to Christ as the firstborn and rejoice that they are children of the same Father (cf. v. 17).

Morris, L. (1988). *The Epistle to the Romans* (p. 333). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press.

Matthew 12:50 (NKJV)

50 **For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.”**

Matthew 25:40 (NKJV)

40 **And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to**

one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’

“It is God’s plan that his people become like his Son, not that they should muddle along in a modest respectability. We should be in no doubt as to the high standard that Paul sets for Christian people. We have been admitted to the heavenly family; we are *brothers* in that family and we call God “Father”. We are accordingly to live as members of the family, and that means being made like our elder Brother. This is all part of God’s predestination; he predestined us not only to be released from an unpleasant predicament, but in order that we might become like his Son.”

Morris, L. (1988). [The Epistle to the Romans](#) (p. 333). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press.

Lesson

Lets now turn our attention to the Golden Chain.

This is one of the most profound and reassuring statements in all of the Bible on the security and the Guarantee of Salvation.

This is the great declaration of the purpose of God as stated in Romans 8:28

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.

God is Sovereignly and Providentially working everything for the good, because we have been saved according to His great purpose....

What is that Great purpose.

He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren

We get a small glimpse of the magnitude of this in Revelation

Revelation 7:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white

robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

This will occur because it is brought about by will of God.

It is intentional, it is planned, it is predetermined. It is a willful act on God’s part through his grace to save many and make them brethren from the fallen race of Adam.

This is not left to the will of man. It is not left to the programs of the church. It is not left to the clever devices of man to accomplish.

This plan and the fulfillment of it is left to the predetermined purpose of God. This is fulfilled but the series of 5 connected actions on God’s part.

All of this depends on God, not man. Man has no part in this at all.

Paul never mentions, once in this text the word, believe, or faith, receive, or repent or confess.

Although those are essential for someone to be saved, They are not the cause of salvation.

God is the cause of salvation, The belief, repentance and confession of the sinner is a result

of the Cause of Salvation. It is the fruit of the purpose of God.

This Great assurance of Salvation of this is gaurneteed by the Great work of God in securing us with the Golden Chain of Salvation. There are 5 links in the chain.

They are unbreakable links that are dependent on the previous link

One is just as strong as the next, and there is not a weak link in the entire chain.. All rest and find their strength in the Omnipotence of God.

First Link in Golden Chain Foreknowledge.

This is where it all begins,

We have looked at this word already in verse 29.

29 For whom He **foreknew**, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son,

Foreknow Aorist Act Ind.

As we noted

This is not talking about foresight.

We are not saying that God does not have foresight, because He does, but we have pointed out that He has foresight because He foreordains.

He knows the future because he determines the future and has the power to carry it out. But even with that understanding, it would have to be admitted that God would know all the possibilities of the future because He is omniscience and all wise.

But this universe is not left to possibility or chance. It is following a plan devised by a perfect God to accomplish a perfect plan to bring perfect Glory to himself.

Foreknowledge includes 3 things Biblically

1. A Predetermined Relationship

to Fore know in the sense, to determine to know someone intimately, to fore love.

Romans 11:2 (NKJV)

² God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. ...

Amos 3:2 (NKJV)

² “You only have I known of all the families of the earth;

Genesis 4:1 (NKJV)

⁴ Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain,...

2. A Predetermined Destiny.

To set your love on someone, determines there relationship with God, and hence there destiny to be with Him.

Acts 2:23 (NKJV)

²³ Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;
 determined = horizon — the word in predestination
 purpose = boule
 Foreknowlege= foreordination.

Some have said, this is an example of a Greek rule known as the Granville Sharp rule.

By the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God (τῆ ὠρισμενῆ βουλῆ καὶ προγνώσῃ τοῦ θεοῦ [*tēi hōrismenēi boulēi kai prognōsēi tou theou*]). Instrumental case. Note both purpose (βουλή [*boulē*]) and foreknowledge (προγνώσις [*prognōsis*]) of God and “determined” (ὠρισμενῆ [*hōrismenē*], perfect passive participle, state of completion). God had willed the death of Jesus (John 3:16) and the death of Judas (Acts 1:16), but that fact did not absolve Judas from his responsibility and guilt (Luke 22:22). He acted as a free moral agent

Robertson, A. T. (1933). [*Word Pictures in the New Testament*](#) (Ac 2:23). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

L. Berkhof

Proginoskein and *prognōsis* in the New Testament ... do not denote simple intellectual foresight or prescience, the mere taking knowledge of something beforehand, but rather a selective knowledge which regards one with favor and makes one an object of love, and thus approaches the idea of foreordination, Acts 2:23 (comp. 4:28); Rom. 8:29; 11:2; 1 Peter 1:2. These passages simply lose their meaning, if the words be taken in the sense of simply taking knowledge of one in advance, for God foreknows all men in that sense. Even Arminians feel constrained to give the words a more determinative meaning,

namely, to foreknow one with absolute assurance in a certain state or condition. This includes the absolute certainty of that future state, and for that very reason comes very close to the idea of predestination. (L. Berkhof, *Systematic Theology* [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976], 112)

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1994). [Acts](#) (Vol. 1, p. 63). Chicago: Moody Press.

3. A predetermined People.

The Elect.

To predetermine to set your love on a person, assumes that you have made a choice of a particular person to love. i.e. To elect or to choose someone.

Elect is a term that refers to the people of God

Romans 8:33 (NKJV)

³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies.

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

2 Timothy 2:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Titus 1:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, **2** in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

James 2:5 (NKJV)

⁵ Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world *to be* rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

1 Peter 2:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of

God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Acts 13:48 (NKJV)

⁴⁸ Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

This election is based on Foreknowledge.

1 Peter 1:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ² elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

we are elect according to foreknowledge.

God chose you base on His foreknowledge of you.

He chose depended on his predetermining to to have a relationship, to fore love you.

So really, it can be said

His predetermining to set his love on you is what elected you

He are elect because God has chosen to love you.

You can see how this has a foreordination in it.

When God made decision to love you, it set the plan in motion.

So this is the beginning of it all. God determines to love your, He thereby is electing you, selecting your, and as a result you are predestined to in the purposes of God for Salvation.

1. This is not based on anything we have done
2. This is not based on partiality
3. It is sovereign, it is bound up in the purpose of God

Ephesians 2:8–10 (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship,

created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Titus 3:5 (NKJV)

⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

Romans 9:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls),

Romans 9:15–16 (NKJV)

¹⁵ For He says to Moses, *“I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.”* ¹⁶ So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.

John 1:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³ who were born, not of blood,

nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Ephesians 1:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

2nd Link in the Golden Chain Predestination

29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son,

predestined

Aorist Act IND

proorizó: to predetermine, foreordain

Original Word: προορίζω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: proorizó

Phonetic Spelling: (pro-or-id'-zo)

Definition: to predetermine, foreordain

Usage: I foreordain, predetermine, mark out beforehand.

4309 proorízō (from 4253 /pró, "before" and 3724 /horízō, "establish boundaries, limits") – properly, pre-horizon, pre-determine limits (boundaries) predestine.

[4309 (proorízō) occurs six times in the NT (eight in the writings of Paul). Since the root (3724 /horízō) already means "establish boundaries," the added prefix (pro, "before") makes 4309 (proorízō) "to pre-establish boundaries," i.e. before creation.

God predetermines Destiny

Ephesians 1:5 (NKJV)

⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Ephesians 1:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him

who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Acts 4:27–28 (NKJV)

²⁷ “For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together ²⁸ to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.

Revelation 13:8 (NKJV)

⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Revelation 17:8 (NKJV)

⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Romans 9:21–23 (NKJV)

²¹ Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

²² What if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³ and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,

Out of the entire fallen race of Adam. All of which are deserving of death and eternal wrath....God choose to save some, thereby mercifully predetermining their destiny for Heaven and just passing over the rest, to allow them to go to Hell.

The Predestination of God is not probable, or possible...it is actual. This is a real determined plan that includes real sinners made righteous by the grace of God in the blood of Christ.

The Third Link in the Golden Chain Called

³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called;

called... Aorist Act Ind.

kaleó: to call

Original Word: καλέω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: kaleó

Phonetic Spelling: (kal-eh'-o)

Definition: to call

Usage: (a) I call, summon, invite, (b) I call, name.

There is two types of callings in the NT.

1. General Call -- to everyone, without exception this is outward, extended to all. It is the open gospel command for all to come and and believe in Christ for Salvation.

It is not necessary effectual. It is not necessarily successful.

2. The Effectual Call— it is to the elect and is with distinction.

This is inward, and only for the elect of God. It is the work of the Holy Spirit in drawing the sinner to the Father through Christ.

It include regeneration, illumination, faith and repentance and confession of sin.

It is the resurrection of the one dead in his sins and the enablement of the sinner to come to Christ

IT is Limited in scope

It is successful in saving the sinner.

It is effectual.

We know that this calling in v. 30 is effectual and limited because it leads to justification

v.30

whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

if this were a general call to everyone, then all would be saved and you would have universalism.

1 Corinthians 1:2 (NKJV)

² To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

Romans 1:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:7 (NKJV)

⁷ For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

2 Timothy 1:9 (NKJV)

⁹ who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

1 Peter 1:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct,

Romans 9:22–24 (NKJV)

²² What if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³ and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He

had prepared beforehand for glory, ²⁴ even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

1 Corinthians 1:21–29 (NKJV)

²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²² For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶ For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*. ²⁷ But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; ²⁸ and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are

not, to bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹ that no flesh should glory in His presence.

whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

The Forth Link in the Golden Chain Justification

Aorist Act In

dikaioó: to show to be righteous, declare righteous

Original Word: δικαιόω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: dikaioó

Phonetic Spelling: (dik-ah-yo'-o)

Definition: to show to be righteous, declare righteous

Usage: I make righteous, defend the cause of, plead for the righteousness (innocence) of, acquit, justify; hence: I regard as righteous.

Cognate: 1344 dikaióō (from dikē, "right, judicial-approval") – properly, approved, especially in a legal, authoritative sense; to show what is right, i.e. conformed to a proper standard (i.e. "upright"). The believer is "made righteous/justified" (1344 / dikaióō) by the Lord, cleared of all charges (punishment) related to their sins. Moreover, they are justified (1344 /dikaióō, "made right, righteous") by God's grace each time they receive (obey) faith (4102 /pístis), i.e. "God's inwrought persuasion" (cf. the -oō ending which conveys "to bring to/out"). See 1343 (dikaiosynē).

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

8 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Why How

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)

²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Romans 3:21–26 (NKJV)

²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 5:8–9 (NKJV)

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

The Fifth link in the Golden Chain Glorification

Aorist Act IND

doxazó: to render or esteem glorious (in a wide application)

Original Word: δοξάζω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: doxazó

Phonetic Spelling: (dox-ad'-zo)

Definition: to render or esteem glorious (in a wide application)

Usage: I glorify, honor, bestow glory on.

Cognate: 1392 doksázō (from 1391 /dókxa, "glory") – glorify; properly, to ascribe weight by recognizing real substance (value). See 1391 (doksa).

"Glorifying (1392 /doksázō) God" means valuing Him for who He really is. For example, "giving (ascribing) glory to God" personally acknowledges God in His true character (essence).

John 17:22 (NKJV)

²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

Romans 8:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

Romans 8:18–19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

Romans 8:23 (NKJV)

²³ Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory,

Colossians 3:4 (NKJV)

⁴ When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

2 Thessalonians 2:13–14 (NKJV)

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wiersbe, W. W.

How can we Christians ever be discouraged and frustrated when we already share the glory of God? Our suffering today only guarantees that much more glory when Jesus Christ returns!

Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [*The Bible exposition commentary*](#) (Vol. 1, p. 541). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.