

Romans 8:16-30

The Spirit's role in our glorification

Ephesians 1:13-14 *In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory (NASB).*

2 Corinthians 1:22 *who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.*

2 Corinthians 5:5 *Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.*

Romans 8:16-17 *The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

Tension between the "now" and the "not yet."

	Now	Not Yet
Adoption	8:15-16	8:23
Glorification	8:30	8:17, 21
Justification (?)	8:30	5:18 (?)

Romans 8:28 - *and in everything, as we know, he co-operates for good with those who love God and are called according to his purpose (Revised English Bible).*

The Greek word translated, usually, "works together" is *synergeo* from which we get the English word "synergy." It means to "work together, help in work, be partner in labor to put forth power together with and thereby to assist" (STRONG). The Greek word is also found in these passages: Mark 16:20; 1 Corinthians 16:16; 2 Corinthians 6:1; James 2:22.



The idea in Romans 8:28 can be paraphrased thusly:

We know that cooperative work for good is accomplished with/for those who love God, who are called according to purpose.

Romans 8:29-30... the process towards glorification.

- 1) God's foreknowledge (because he is the searcher of hearts, vs. 27).
 1. Foreknow means to know beforehand.
 2. The Greek word *proginosco* appears in Romans 11:2 and 1 Peter 1:20; where the meaning is probably "to choose."
 3. The word also appears in these Greek texts where the meaning is "to know beforehand." Acts 26:5; 2 Peter 3:17; Wisdom 6:13; 8:8; 18:6.
- 2) God's predestination (8:17; 6:5) to be conformed to Christ, including resurrection (vs. 14).
- 3) God's call. In the New Testament, "the called" means "those who have favorably answered God's call.
- 4) Justification (legally cleared of guilt).
- 5) Glorification (resurrection).

Summary by Bob Mayo, Safford, AZ: All Christians are predestined to go to heaven; but no select individuals are predestined to be Christians.