LESSONS THIS QUARTER
7) 16 Oct .........................Romans 8:1-39, ...................... It's All About Certainty

INTRODUCTION
- Chapter 8 hits on 12 doctrines – Election, predestination, God’s foreknowledge, God’s calling, justification, condemnation, salvation, eternal security, spiritual adoption, joint heirs with Christ, perseverance, and prayer – all within 39 verses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passage</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romans 8:1-8</td>
<td>It isImpossible for Those in the Flesh to Please God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romans 8:9-11</td>
<td>Believers have the Holy Spirit to Guide Them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romans 8:12-17</td>
<td>We Are Obligated to Live Right Since We Are Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romans 8:18-23</td>
<td>Pain and Sufferings Are Part of this Life by Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romans 8:24-25</td>
<td>We are Saved in Hope (Faith &amp; Hope are Intertwined)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romans 8:26-27</td>
<td>The Holy Spirit Involves Himself with our Prayers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Passage Comments
8:28-30 God's Foreknowledge Predestined Us to Be Conformed, Called, Justified and Glorified |
- There are mainly two (2) competing positions on this:
  1. The believer has no choice in believing (Irresistible Grace) – everything (election and predestination) is done for them by a sovereign God without the believer needing to be involved (Calvinism)
  2. The invitation is open to all, God is willing to save all, God being omniscient knew who would believe, so His sovereignty predestined the elect to be conformed, called, justified, etc. (Arminianism)
- v28. God works providentially on our behalf

8:31-39 The End Result of All This Assurance of Salvation |
- v32. If God did not spare His own Son from the cross, then we stand to receive everything from God – Freely
- v35-39. And NOTHING can unsave us – God won’t do it; Satan can’t do it; and we can’t do it either – WOW!

8:31-39 Food for Thought |
- If Calvinists are right that Christ only died for the sins of the elect, why didn’t God have His elect, the apostles and disciples, physically nail Christ to the cross?
- If Arminians are right that the elect can will themselves into Heaven and will themselves out of Heaven then how can God predestine them for anything?
- If Calvinists are right that Christ did not die for the non-elect then why would they need to go to Hell? Christ didn’t die for animals either, and they won’t be in hell

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS
- Calvinists and Arminianists come in all flavors. In brief, not all Calvinist positions are wrong, neither are all Arminian positions wrong. Neither will one chapter of one book resolve all the issues. It takes the whole counsel of God to sort through everything. Let God be found true & every man a liar (Rom 3:4)

NEXT WEEK: Romans 9-11. We’ll see God grafting in Gentiles; saving only the remnant who believe; hardening the rest; shutting up all in disobedience; and showing mercy to all

You really believe we should be going so fast? Yes, this nose is predestined by Almighty God!

Choice of Predestination: The debate rages on with John Calvin & Hobbes