

- The effectual calling is commonly known as “irresistible grace” which teaches that the saving grace of God is effectually applied to those whom He has determined to save. In His timing, God overcomes their resistance to obeying the call of the gospel, bringing them to faith in Christ (John 6:37,44; John 10:3,17). Because the sinfulness of the human heart is welded and anchored to its own ways, God must overpower and draw man to Himself.

(iv) *Justification*

- Those who God calls, He also justifies or declares them righteous on the ground of Christ’s work on the cross. We are justified by God’s grace alone through faith in Christ alone.

(v) *Glorification*

- Our salvation is secure because God will complete it. This word “glorified” deals with our future glory. This is the work of God in bringing all His preplanned programme to a completion by making the elect ones perfect and complete (Phil 1:6). The full sense of our glorification will not occur until Jesus Christ returns, and our bodies are resurrected (Phil 3:20-21; 1 John 3:2). The glorious return of Christ will result in the instant, permanent glorification of all believers living and dead, as we all receive our new glorified bodies.
- Paul speaks of the believer’s glorification as being past. It has not yet happened but in the mind and purpose of God, it is already a done deal! So certain is this glorification that God sees us as already glorified. It is in the plan of God, and that means that it is as good as here. Our salvation is secure because it is bound up with God’s eternal purpose of glorifying His beloved Son.

Summary

- Our salvation is safe and secured.
 - God is the Author of our salvation, and that from beginning to the end. Our salvation is secure because God originated it, He effected it, and He will complete it. This is all God. We have no contribution to make to this. This is entirely a “monergistic” work of grace - there is only one active agent. It’s 100% God. It is rooted and grounded in God Himself (11:36).
 - The invincibility of God’s purpose is the guarantee. This golden chain spans time and eternity and is unbreakable. They are forged together by the eternal will of almighty God. It’s all designed for His glory. A person is either saved or not, and if saved, then all five of these “links” are true.
- From these great truths several powerful questions leap forth:
 - V31a: “*What shall we then say to these things?*” Hallelujah! Praise God!
 - V31b: “*If God be for us, who can be against us?*” Who can be successfully against us since God is for us? Obviously, the answer is no one. No one can successfully oppose us and thwart the eternal purpose of God.

- V32: “*He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*” God has already given us the most precious gift – His own Son. How can we think that He won’t give us the smaller gifts? Unquestionably He will (Ps 23:1; Phil 4:19).
- V33: “*Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.*” Who can bring charges that can be sustained against the elect. The penalty for our sins has been fully met by the Son of God Who died, rose again and now pleads for us on the basis of His shed blood. We have been tried in the highest court in the universe and found NOT GUILTY!
- V34: “*Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*” Our case has been settled and there is no higher court that can condemn us. Jesus is our great High Priest and He intercedes for us (Heb 7:25) - we are forever and completely saved. Because of what Christ did and is still doing for us, we will never be lost!

4. The Inseparable Love of God (8:35-39)

- The “love of Christ” is Christ’s love for us. We are safe and secure forever in the love of Christ! Paul lists 7 experiences that could make a person feel separated from the love of God: “*shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*” God knows the end from the beginning. These things may hurt us temporarily, but all these things are working for something much better. Paul cites Psalm 44:22 to show that enduring trials and even death for Christ’s sake is nothing new for God’s people.
- These experiences taken in the will of God makes us better Christians. Paul boldly affirms that we are not just conquerors; we are “*more than conquerors*” – we are super-conquerors! We can rejoice in the midst of the battle because we know the outcome. We overwhelmingly conquer through God who loved us. The ability to triumph over all adversity does not arise from any inherent superiority of believers. It is “*through Him that loved us*”.
- Paul concludes with his firm conviction that absolutely nothing “*will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*” Death cannot, nor can life. Nothing in the spirit world can – angels, principalities, powers. Nothing in time can – either present or future. Nothing in the height or depth – the limitless reaches of space can. No other creation can. If nothing shall ever separate us from the love of God, are we not secure (Rom 5:8; Jude 24,25)? We are assured that God will always keep us secure in His love.