



September 28, 2025

Salvation Belongs to the Lord!

Part 3 | Romans 8:29-30

As we turn again to Romans 8, we find one of the most hope-filled chapters in all of Scripture. The Apostle Paul is writing to a group of believers in Rome to encourage and strengthen their faith. These Christians were facing ongoing persecution, suffering, and daily pressure. To build their confidence, Paul reminds them of a foundational truth: salvation belongs to the Lord. In the midst of their trials, Paul doesn't give them mere comfort. He gives them something stronger—certainty.

Because of this, their future is secure. Those whom God has justified, He has already determined to glorify. In Romans 8:29–30, we find one of the clearest affirmations of the eternal security of the believer. This truth has often been described by terms like “once saved, always saved” or “the perseverance of the saints.”

Central Idea of the Text:

Paul wanted the believers in Rome to live with full confidence and assurance in the eternal security of their salvation.

Thesis:

You can live with confidence and assurance that your salvation is secure in Christ!

In our text today, Paul offers a sweeping view of salvation—from God's perspective. He emphasizes that salvation is entirely dependent on divine action, not human effort. Your confidence is rooted in the following truths from Romans 8:29–30:

1. “HE CALLED” — GOD’S INITIATIVE IN SALVATION

(See: John 5:39–40; 6:44, 65; 12:32; Titus 2:11–12)

Salvation begins with God. He takes the first step through His divine calling.



2. "HE JUSTIFIED" — GOD'S DECLARATION OF SALVATION

To be justified means "to be declared righteous." Justification – legal term – describes our perfect standing before God in the righteousness of Christ. As we have already learned from Paul, the only way to be justified is by faith alone, in Christ alone (Romans 4). We cannot earn or achieve a right standing with God. Jesus Christ, thru His death, burial, and resurrection accomplished for us what we could never accomplish ourselves (Romans 3:21-26).

The central theme of Romans 1-4 is justification. Paul repeatedly stresses the necessity of faith leading to justification (Romans 3-5). The issue is settled, those who have been justified, God has already made the divine decision to glorify them!

Romans 5:1 (NASB95) Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. "HE GLORIFIED" — GOD'S COMPLETION OF SALVATION

"Glorified" refers to being made perfectly fit for heaven. It is the final step in the process of salvation—when we are transformed fully into the image of Christ.

What's remarkable here is that Paul uses the past tense—"glorified"—even though this hasn't yet happened in time. Why? Because in God's mind, our glorification is so certain that He speaks of it as already done. Some things are so certain in the mind of God that He speaks of them as though they have already happened.

"If you are saved, the fact of your going to heaven is likewise so fixed in the mind of God that He speaks of you as already having been glorified." — *Harold Hunter*



Conclusion:

Your salvation doesn't rest on your ability to hold on, but on God's unshakable promise to carry you through. Salvation truly belongs to the Lord. And because it does, you can live with unwavering confidence and assurance!

Book recommendation:

Stop Asking Jesus Into Your Heart: How to know for sure you are saved!
by J.D. Greear

"Assurance is impossible unless you believe salvation is by faith alone."
— J.D. Greear

Question: Are you living with that kind of confidence?

If you are in Christ, the issue is settled. The cross has spoken. The verdict is in. Your future is secure.

