

## Just Checking In #123 All of God Romans 11:36

March 30, 2012

*Psalm 39:12 "Hear my prayer, O Lord... for I am a 'pilgrim' with You..."*

(You can hear the sermon on this text at [www.bbcpa.org](http://www.bbcpa.org) - March 18th - The Gospel is all of God)

Romans 11:33-36 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out. "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him? For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

In Paul's introduction to this glorious epistle. He calls the gospel "the gospel of God." He then takes the next 11 chapters to define, describe and display this glorious gospel. He uses the word gospel repeatedly with various adjectives, for example...

*1:1 the gospel of God*

*1:2 the gospel he promised beforehand*

*1:9 the gospel of his Son*

*1:16 the gospel... the power of God*

*2:16 my gospel*

*15:16 the gospel of God*

*15:19 the gospel of Christ.*

As to origin it is "the gospel of God that He promised." As to subject, it is "the gospel of His Son... Christ". As to its purpose it is the gospel "unto salvation". As to its proclamation it is "my gospel."

*When Paul refers to the gospel as "the gospel of God" it is focused on the origin and ownership of this glorious good news. It is the good news that comes from God and the good news that is centered in God, and the good news that accomplishes all that God intends by way of His saving purpose in Christ.*

***This gospel results in the salvation of sinners from first to last.***

Paul, having demonstrated the universal sinfulness of all men (Gentile Romans 1, and Jew Romans 2, and both Romans 3:1-18), has declared the gospel of God that justification is by faith alone in finished work of Christ (Romans 3:19 - chapter 5) by the work of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6-7) and reviews it all in chapter 8, showing that salvation is the work of God from first (foreknowledge and predestination) to last (glorification.) Then Paul discusses God's inviolate promises to Israel, their past and present partial rejection of God's gospel in Christ, their coming restoration, and God's amazing plan in weaving even man's rejection into His saving purposes in keeping His promises to His glory.

*To bring all this to a doxological conclusion, Paul lifts His voice in wonder as He extols God's infinite wisdom, undeserved grace, and everlasting glory.*

### **God's Infinite Wisdom in Designing Salvation**

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out.

"Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?"

### **God's Undeserved Grace in Giving Salvation**

"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?"

### **God's Everlasting Glory Revealed First to Last**

For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen!

**Verse 36 culminates, concludes and summarizes all that we have learned about God's gospel.**

From Him Source Architect Election Glacier Spring

Through Him Means Builder Redemption River Channel

To Him End Owner Glorification Ocean End

**From Him –the source of the plan, the design, the decree, the mercy, the grace, election,**

foreknowledge, predestination...from eternity past... creation, election, redemption... It is all from Him and Him alone. There is no other source. It is all from Him!

**Through Him– the means, the cause, the power, the accomplishment, the direction, the action**

Calling, justification... the saving work of God in the soul is all accomplished through Him, Through His grace, through His blood, through His Spirit, through His word

**To Him – the end, destination, purpose, ownership, glory, praise and possession... all to Him**

Glorification, full Christlikeness, in His presence, eternal destination & delight... To His glory, to His presence, to His pleasure, to His purpose, to His praise

### **For Further Study:**

2 Cor 5:18 All this (salvation) is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ

Rom 5:9-11 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! 11 Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Rom 8:28-30 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Eph 1:2-6 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. 4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5 he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with

his pleasure and will-- 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Col 1:20-22 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. 21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation--

1 Peter 1:2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Jude 24-25 To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy-- 25 to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

### **Self Check:**

1) As you read Romans 11:33-36, are you as amazed and thrilled by God's wisdom, grace and glory as the apostle was when he wrote it?

2) How is God's saving work in your heart and life... from Him.... through Him.... and to Him?

3) How can you, and do you, and will you bring God glory for His saving work in your life?

*O God, salvation is from You, not from me. You designed it. You decreed it. You chose me before time began. You foreknew me. You predestined me to be conformed to the image of Your Son, fully and forever. You did not ask or require my advice or counsel. It is all from You and You alone. Salvation is all through You. I am not saved through my works, but through Christ's work. I am not saved through my righteousness, but through Yours. I am not saved through my faithfulness, but through Yours. It is all through You. And salvation is all to You. You have saved me to reconcile me to Yourself. You redeemed me to Yourself, You are conforming me to Your likeness. You are doing all this to Your glory and praise. From first to last, salvation is all about You and Your plan, Your work and Your glory. And I am the blessed recipient of this glorious grace that I might exult in the soul satisfying delight of giving You glory forever and ever and ever. In Thy Name, o God from Whom, through Whom and To Whom are all things. Forever and ever, Amen."*

Remember, you are very special to us and we pray for you.

### **Living with leaving in view.... Jn 9:4 Ron & Val**

Seeing The Invisible, embracing The Unapproachable, declaring The Unexplainable, changed by The Immutable, running after The Irresistible with inexhaustible joy in our inexpressible sorrows, spending our time on eternity, owning nothing yet possessing everything that matters and lasts.

We are Pilgrims in Paradox. Welcome to THE JOURNEY.

