

“God Causes All Things to Work Together for Good”

God’s Purpose: Why? “for Good”

and

“God Causes All Things to Work Together” for Good”

God’s Ways: How? “God Causes”

Scripture Romans 8:28

Today’s Study ***Why does God do what He does? How does He do it?***

➤ **Romans 8:28: Why Does God Do What He Does?** *Romans 8:28*

– What is God’s purpose? What is God’s goal?

“for good” . . . for good for believers.

Because God has revealed this explicitly, we may know that “good” is God’s purpose for us – and for all other believers.

➤ **Romans 8:28: How Does God Do What He Does?** *Romans 8:28*

– How does God achieve His purpose?

“God causes all things to work together” . . . **“work together”**

for good – not that all things are good in themselves. All things are worked together – by God – so as to produce good for those who love God . . .

○ How does God cause all things to work together for good? Details.

❖ **The tests of life: God never tempts anyone to sin.**

➤ **James 1:12-14**

❖ **God controls the extent of evil tests. God limits evil tests.**

➤ **Job 1:12, 2:6**

Romans 8:28: *How Does God Do It?*

- ❖ **God tests believers. God proves and strengthens believers, through tests that God sends . . . which tests believers pass!**

Abraham – Genesis 22:1. **the people of Israel** – Exodus 20:20, Deuteronomy 8:2, 8:16, 13:3; Judges 2:22, 3:1; **King Hezekiah** – 2 Chronicles 32:31; **the people of Israel** – Psalms 66:10;
Abraham – Hebrews 11:17-19; **New Testament Christians** – 1 Peter 1:6-7; **Joseph** – Genesis 45:1-15(8) and 50:15-21 (19-20).

- **Genesis 22:1**
- **Exodus 20:20**
- **Deuteronomy 8:2 and 8:16**
- **Deuteronomy 13:3**
- **Judges 2:22**
- **Judges 3:1**
- **2 Chronicles 32:31**
- **Psalms 66:10**
- **Hebrews 11:17-19**
- **1 Peter 1:6-7**

❖ **God controls results. God does not allow evil intentions to win.**

➤ **Genesis 45:1-15 (8)**

➤ **Genesis 50:15-21 (19-20)**

❖ **God does not allow a believer to be tempted by temptations that are impossible to resist. For the believer, God allows only temptations that come with a way of avoiding sinning.**

➤ **1 Corinthians 10:13** ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. ¹

Why does God do what He does? God works so as to cause good.

How does God cause good? For every believer, God causes all things to work together so as to produce good.

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (1 Co 10:13). Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.

PRINCIPLES FOR LIVING

[“Principles for Living” are (1) restatements of the truth found in the Scripture text, or (2) valid conclusions based on that truth. These “Principles for Living” are general principles for living faithful to God – as seen in this Bible study.]

1. God’s will and plan for each believer is “good”. God causes the total effect of all the events in every believer’s life to be “good”.
2. God never tempts a believer to sin. No temptation to sin is from God.
3. For every believer, God limits evil tests by evil persons and forces.
4. God tests believers, using tests to prove and improve believers.
5. Evil tests believers. God limits these tests, and controls the results of these tests to so as to produce good results.
6. God does not allow temptations that are impossible to resist. With every temptation (to think or do wrong), God provides a way to avoid sinning, and to escape the pain and penalties of sinning.

PERSONAL APPLICATIONS

If you think a Principle for Living is true, think of a way it applies to your personal situation – a specific truth you should believe, a specific way you should think, or a specific action you should take in an actual situation of your life.

MEMORY VERSE Romans 8:28

²⁸ **And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.** ²

FOLLOW-UP

1. Look up, review, and summarize each of the Scriptures referenced.
[This morning, we read a verse or two of each thought. When you find these Scriptures, make sure you understand the main thought God expresses – by reading the context of each Scripture.]
2. Memorize Romans 8:28 in your favorite translation. How does the truth of this Scripture apply to the details – and especially to the challenges – of your personal situation?
3. For each Principle For Living . . . **make it personal!** How does each Principle For Living relate to your life – to the things you know about how God works in the things you do each day? How does each PFL relate to your personal obedience to God and to your personal responsibilities to others?

² *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (Ro 8:28). Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.