

Let me begin this morning by saying there are some passages of Scripture I feel most unworthy to even approach as a minister of God's Word. Indeed I am most unworthy of the calling of proclaiming God's Word at all. But this passage we have been considering over the past two Sundays and this morning is a portion of Scripture that only God alone can truly and properly expand on for He alone can truly open to us the true character of His glorious excellence. I can only ask that God may be pleased to bless His written word to our hearts as we consider these words of our beloved Apostle Paul as he presents God to us as the source, the means and the end of all things.

Let us read once again the Scripture text before us, *"For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen."* (Rom 11:36) It is good to understand that when we read "of Him, through Him, and to Him" that Paul is using three Greek prepositions here, (ek) which gives to us the idea of source. Next he uses (dia) which provides us with the understanding of means and (eis) that can signify the end or purpose.

Now once again as in the previous verses 33-35 this verse is also most clearly and perfectly outlined for us for God has revealed Himself to us under three basic principles: 1. God is the source of all things; 2. God is the means by which all things continue; and 3. God is the end, that is, the purpose and end of all things are to His glory and praise alone. Or it may be said, that all things are of Him in His eternal plan and purpose, through Him in the working out of all things and to Him in the glory which they produce.

A. God is the source of all things.

1. There was a time when neither time as we know it, nor creation existed.
2. To rightly understand God we must understand that He is from "everlasting to everlasting"
3. There was a time when only God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit existed and they were and are sufficient in of and to themselves.

Rev 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

4. He alone is the Eternal God.

Isa 44:6 'I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.

- a. All things exists because God is.
- b. Men may it "Intelligent Design" we know it as "In the beginning GOD".

5. Let me share a quote with you from Spurgeon upon this passage.

In that time before all time, when there was no day but, "The Ancient of Days"—when matter and created mind were alike unborn and even space was not—God, the great I Am, was as perfect, glorious and blessed as He is now. There was no sun and yet Jehovah dwelt in light ineffable. There was no earth and yet His Throne stood fast and firm. There were no heavens and yet His Glory was unbounded. - Spurgeon

6. God from eternity purposed to create a world, a planet, on which life could exist and that is why we are here this morning.
7. From eternity God had purposed to redeem His elect from their fallen condition and that is why we have the comfort and hope of eternal life abiding in us this morning.

*Eph 1:3-6 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as **He chose us** in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having **predestined us** to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, **according to the good pleasure of His will**, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.*

8. Let us then be mindful that God is the source of all good; for in fallen man there is neither merit nor ability therefore our salvation is all of grace alone to the glory of God alone.
9. Christ alone is the source of our faultless standing before God.
 - a. This is important for not only do we need the blood of Christ that removes our guilt.
 - b. For we not only need the guilt of our sins to be place upon Christ and atoned for by the cross, we further need the righteousness of Christ imputed to us.
 - c. Christ alone is the source of our justification, of our righteousness.

B. By which all things continue.

1. We read that Jesus upholds all things by the word of His power.

*Heb 1:2-3 through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and **upholding** all things by the word of His power.*

2. What men call the "laws of nature" or "mother nature" we know to be God's sovereign providence over all things.

3. What men may call "happenstance", or "good or bad fortune" we know to be God's sovereign providential hand in the affairs of mankind.

a. God rules over the very nations of the world.

b. This is why Joseph could say to his brothers, you meant it for evil God meant it for good. (Gen 50:20) Or why Peter could say, you by wicked hands crucified the Lord of glory, but God raised Him up. (Acts 2:22ff)

4. This is why this morning we can take great comfort in the words of Rom. 8:28

*Rom 8:28 And **we know** that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

5. Nothing can happen in the lives of God's people outside of God's best . . . for through Him are all things.

6. And finally He keeps us from falling and will present before the Father blameless.

Jude 24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

1 Peter 1:5 " . . . who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation."

C. God is the end, that is, the purpose and end of all things are to His glory and praise alone. (

1. All things were designed and exist to the praise of His glory.

Pss 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.

2. The church exist for His glory.

Isa 43:7 Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."

3. Even the wicked

Prov 16:4 The LORD has made all for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

Rom 9:22-23 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,

CONCLUSION: Ungodly men may refuse to acknowledge this glorious God of all creation.

But we who have been redeemed can only cry out – not to us O LORD, but to your name alone is the glory and the power forever and ever amen.

For all things are . . . " . . . of Him and through Him and to Him, to whom be glory forever. Amen

I will close with two verses of Holy Scripture.

Rev 4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."

Pss 115:1-3 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to Your name give glory, because of Your mercy, because of Your truth. Why should the Gentiles say, "So where is their God?" For our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.