

## **A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED ON PAUL'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH IN ROME**

### **GOD WORKS FOR YOUR GOOD**

Romans 8:28 “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.”

Romans 8:28 is addressed only to those who are loved by God and who love Him. This verse is special, faith strengthening and comforting for all who believe in the Triune God. These words are your assurance that as you live each day and face the challenges that come your way God is always at work in your life for your good.

In good days and days of trials and tribulations, you a believer are not left to meet your needs with your own wisdom and strength. As yesterday's devotion said, the Holy Spirit keeps helping you. His help is not just during occasional times when you are weak. He works in you through God's Word and the Sacraments to strengthen you in your faith constantly. Through these means He assures you your sins are forgiven and through Jesus Christ you are a conqueror over all things.

The one help the Holy Spirit gives you is His intercessory prayer to God in your behalf. His intercessory prayers will always be in conformity and alignment with God's will. And, remember what Jesus taught in His Sermon on the Mount, “. . .when you pray. . .your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”

(Matthew 6:7-8) Matthew Henry, in his Commentary writes, “What could have been done more for the comfort of the Lord's people, in all their addresses to God? Christ had said, ‘Whatever you ask the Father according to His will He will give it you.’ But how shall we learn to ask according to His will? Why, the Spirit will teach us that.”

St. Paul wrote these words to Timothy which are also for you, “the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline. . . join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of His own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. . . I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.”

Prayer: Thank You Father for the good you work in my life for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him! Yes, I will laud Him until death;  
With songs and anthems I come before Him As long as He allows me breath,  
From Him my life and all things came; Bless, O my soul, His holy name.

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia!

Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal; Earthborn they are and soon decay,  
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal, When the dark grave engulfs its  
prey.

Since mortals can no help afford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.

Refrain:

Blessed, oh, blessed are they forever Whose help is from the Lord Most High  
Whom from salvation can nothing sever, And who in hope to Christ draw  
nigh.

To all who trust in Him, our Lord Will aid and counsel now afford. Refrain:

Penitent sinners, for mercy crying, Pardon and peace from Him obtain;  
Ever the wants of the poor supplying, Their faithful God He will remain.  
He helps His children in distress, The widows and the fatherless. Refrain:  
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