

The Security of a Believer, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 8:28.
- B. There is security in justification by faith.
- C. The extent of our security: all things work for good.
- D. Good things and bad things are working together for good.

II. God uses bad things for good.

A. Suffering.

- 1. It teaches us to hate sin.
- 2. It teaches us to see the evil within us.
- 3. It drives us to God.
- 4. It conforms us to Christ.
- 5. It drives out sin.
- 6. It confirms our sonship.
- 7. It brings greater glory.

B. Struggling (temptation). (Romans 7:14)

- 1. Believers are transformed when they receive Christ. (Galatians 2:20, Romans 6)
- 2. The old person has been crucified. The old "I" died, and the new "I" was born.
- 3. The old law in one's flesh wars against the new law.
- 4. The new man struggles with the sin that is still there in the Christian life.
- 5. Struggling works for good because...
 - a. It leads us to prayer. (Psalm 42)
 - b. It devastates our spiritual pride. (2 Corinthians 12)
 - c. It teaches us lessons to help others. (Ephesians 6)
 - d. It teaches us to lean on Christ.
 - e. It makes you desire heaven. (Philippians 3:21)

C. Sin.

1. God brings light out of darkness.
2. Sin is evil, but God overrules it.
3. God keeps cleansing it. (1 John 1)
4. Sin can teach us humility.
5. Sin can lead us to forgiveness, which leads us to praise.

III. No one falls through the cracks--God overrules the impact of all negative things so that believers will be made like Christ. There is security. (John 6)

Application Questions:

1. When have you experienced something positive come from suffering?

2. Why do Christians continue to struggle with temptation?

3. How could knowing that good comes from sin be dangerous? How can we safeguard ourselves?
