THE CONFORMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

<u>Introduction</u>: We have seen the <u>FORMATION</u> of the Word of God, the <u>TRANSFORMATION</u> by the Word of God, and the <u>INFORMATION</u> about the Word of God. The next thing we will look at is the <u>CONFORMATION</u> to the Word of God.

We were not given the Bible to simply admire it and its qualities and attributes. We were given it that it might be used to CONFORM us to the image of Christ. No better tool is available than the Bible to accomplish this purpose.

Rom. 8:28-29 reveals several things about this CONFORMATION...

1-The Certainty of Conformation

Verse 28 says, "**And we know**." There's no doubt, there's no happenstance here, there's no maybe here, and we know that all things work together for good to those who love God. This is not conjecture, this is not vague opinion, this is a promise of God.

God has too much invested in you to let you lose, God has a great investment in you and he's not going to let it go. **Phil. 1:6** Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: God is not going to let you go, God is going to see to it that all things work together for good for you.

2-The Completeness of Conformation

We know that "all things" work together for good. So many times when we read this we only think about the worst things, but the best things work together for this a glorious service, it's working for good, isn't this a wonderful book, it's working for good. Wasn't that thrilling music? That's working for good and all of the good things that God does for you everyday, that's working together. God daily loads us with benefits, count your many blessings, name them one by one, it will surprise you what the Lord has done. But wait a minute, not only the best things work together for good, but the worst things work together for good. The things that you said were calamities, the things that you said were disastrous, the things that you said that brought ruin, God said it's going to be blessing to you.

3-The Cause of Conformation

All things work together "for good" ...

4-The Condition of Conformation

All things <u>don't</u> work together for good to all people, but notice what it says, "we know that all things work together for good or God works all things together for good "*to them that love God*," that's the condition of it friend.

Go back to Romans 8:28, the condition of it is that we're to love God and then when we do love God and God starts to work all things together for our good what are the consequences of it.

5-The Consequence of Conformation

All things work together for good to those who love God who are the called according to his purpose, now, that's the consequence of it, "*His purpose*."

What is His purpose? You know God doesn't have two or three goals for you, God has one single solitary goal for you and it's found in vs 29, for whom he did foreknow he did also predestinate to be conformed to the image of his son. Do you know what God's purpose is for you? To make you like Jesus.

Conclusion: God called you for a purpose, God saved you for a purpose and that purpose is make you like His Beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to conform you to his image and so God is not working all things together to make you *healthy*. God is not working all things together to make you *happy*. God is working all things together to make you *like* the Lord Jesus Christ and there are not enough demons in hell to stop you from becoming what God purposed for you to be!

Phil. 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Scripture is often seen as a plumb line, an accurate instrument of measurement by which objects measured up against it must either line up with or be altered! This series will take such an approach and look at how our lives are to line up with God's standard.

A plumb line is "a cord from which a metal weight is suspended pointing directly to the earth's center of gravity; used to determine the vertical from a given point" Literally a plumb line is used to help determine whether a wall is completely straight or not. If a wall is not built "True to plumb," disaster can result.

A little boy came up to his mother one day and said to her, "Mother, guess what! I'm eight feet, four inches tall!" His mother, greatly surprised, inquired into the matter and found he was using a six-inch ruler to measure a "foot." The boy was actually only a few inches over four feet. This is exactly what we do. We measure ourselves by one another, an imperfect prototype, rather than by the standard of the Word of God.

What is this plumb line of the Lord? God's Word is the standard by which we measure beliefs and behavior.