

## Romans Session 120

### The Recipients of Security 2

*Romans 8:28 (NASB)*

<sup>28</sup> *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

Ok we have been talking about those who receive the promises of security from God. It is those who Love God, and who are called according to His purpose.

We have taken a look through the Old Testament, and through the New Testament and again and again we see it recorded that the favor and blessings of the Kingdom are for those who Love God.

We looked at Exodus 20, and Deuteronomy 7, and also Nehemiah chapter 1. We also looked at the writings of the Psalms, and then in the New Testament we heard Paul speaking to the Corinthians, and the Ephesians, even James talks about this that God's promises are for those who Love God.

And here again in Romans, their message is the same. Also, in the books of Luke, and Galatians, and even John spoke of this truth. So First of all, the receivers of security are for those who love God.

Now along with this theme of Love for God, we learn that

**Secondly**, genuine love for God trusts in His power to protect His own.

David admonished fellow believers:

*Psalms 31:23a (NASB)*

<sup>23</sup> *O love the LORD, all you His godly ones! The LORD preserves the faithful*

**And thirdly**, genuine love for God is characterized by peace that only He can impart.

*Psalms 119:165 (NASB)*

<sup>165</sup> *Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.*

As believers we have a divine and secure peace that the world cannot give, possess, understand, or take away'

*John 14:27 (NASB)*

<sup>27</sup> *"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.*

*John 16:33 (NASB)*

<sup>33</sup> *"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world."*

*Philippians 4:7 (NASB)*

<sup>7</sup> *And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

And **Fourth**, genuine love for God is sensitive to His will and His honor.

When God is blasphemed, repudiated, or in any way dishonored, His faithful children suffer pain on His behalf. David so identified himself with the Lord that he could say;

**Psalm 69:9 (NASB)**

*<sup>9</sup> For zeal for Your house has consumed me, And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.*

**Fifth,** genuine love for God loves the things that God loves, and we know what He loves through the revelation of His Word.

Throughout **Psalm 119** the writer expresses love for God's law, God's ways, God's standards, and all else that is God's

**Psalm 119:72 (NASB)**

*<sup>72</sup> The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver pieces.*

**Psalm 119:97 (NASB)**

*<sup>97</sup> O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.*

**Psalm 119:103 (NASB)**

*<sup>103</sup> How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

And David Testified;

**Psalm 138:2 (NASB)**

*<sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward Your holy temple And give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name.*

**Sixth,** genuine love for God loves the people God loves. John repeatedly and unequivocally asserts that a person who does not love God's children does not love God and does not belong to God.

**1 John 3:14 (NASB)**

*<sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.*

**1 John 4:7-8 (NASB)**

*<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*

*<sup>8</sup> The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

In the strongest possible language, John declares that;

**1 John 4:20-21 (NASB)**

*<sup>20</sup> If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.*

*<sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.*

In the next chapter he declares just as firmly that:

**1 John 5:1-2 (NASB)**

*<sup>1</sup> Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.*

*<sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.*

**Seventh,** genuine love for God hates what God hates. Godly love cannot tolerate evil. The loving Christian grieves over sin, first of all for sin in his own life but also for sin in the lives of others, especially in the lives of fellow believers.

When the cock's crow reminded Peter of His Lord's prediction, he wept bitterly over his denial of Christ, which he had just made for the third time;

*Matthew 26:75 (NASB)*

*<sup>75</sup> And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.*

On the other hand, to love the world and the things of the world, is to love what God hates, and John therefore solemnly warns,

*1 John 2:15 (NASB)*

*<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

Eighth, genuine love for God longs for Christ's return.

Paul rejoiced in the knowledge that;

*2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NASB)*

*<sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;*

*<sup>8</sup> in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

Ninth, and finally, the overarching mark of genuine love for God is obedience.

*John 14:21 (NASB)*

*<sup>21</sup> "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."*

Looking at 1 John 5:1-2 we see that obedience to God is inextricably tied both to love for God and love for fellow believers.

*1 John 5:1-2 (NASB)*

*<sup>1</sup> Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.*

*<sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.*

Now just as the recipients of security love God, so also

THE RECIPIENTS OF SECURITY ARE CALLED

*"to those who are called"*

Second, Paul describes the recipients of eternal security as **those who are called**.

Just as our love originates with God, so does our calling into His heavenly family.

In every way, the initiative and provision for salvation are God's.

In their fallen, sinful state, men are able only to hate God, because, regardless of what they may think, they are His enemies.

**Romans 5:10a (NASB)**

<sup>10</sup> *For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son,*

And as such we are children of His wrath;

**Ephesians 2:3 (NASB)**

<sup>3</sup> *Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.*

When Jesus said that;

**Matthew 22:14 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup> *“For many are called, but few are chosen.”*

He was referring to the gospel’s external call to all men to believe in Him.

In the history of the church nothing is more obvious than the fact that many, perhaps most people who receive this call do not accept it.

But in the epistles, the terms *called*, and *calling* are used in a different sense, referring to the sovereign, regenerating work of God in a believer’s heart that brings him to new life in Christ.

Paul explains the meaning of “*those who are called*” in the following two verses:

**Romans 8:29-30 (NASB)**

<sup>29</sup> *For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;*

<sup>30</sup> *and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.*

Many theologians call this the effectual call.

In this sense all “*all those who are called*” are chosen and redeemed by God and are ultimately glorified.

They are securely predestined by God to be His children and to be conformed to the image of His Son.

Believers have never been “*called*” on the basis of their works or for their own purposes.

In Hebrews chapter 11 it is made clear, faith in God has always been the only way of redemption.

Believers are not saved on the basis of who they are or what they have done but solely on the basis of who God is and what He has done.

We are redeemed:

**2 Timothy 1:8-9 (NASB)**

<sup>8</sup> *Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,*

<sup>9</sup> *who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,*

Because it operates completely according to God's will and by His power, the gospel never fails to accomplish and secure its work of salvation in those who believe.

***1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NASB)***

***<sup>13</sup> For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.***

Later in Romans Paul uses Jacob and Esau to illustrate God's effectual call, which is also a sovereign call.

***Romans 9:11-13 (NASB)***

***<sup>11</sup> for though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls,***

***<sup>12</sup> it was said to her, "THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER."***

***<sup>13</sup> Just as it is written, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED."***

Although human faith is imperative for salvation, God's gracious initiation of salvation is even more imperative. Jesus declared categorically,

***John 6:65 (NASB)***

***<sup>65</sup> And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father."***

God's choice not only precedes man's choice but makes man's choice possible and effective.

We want to talk a little more about this so we will take it up again next time. Before we take on the subject of the source of security.