

Feb 12/1-13
Rom 8:1-29

"Does God send Catastrophe?" "When trouble
the lion

CAN ROM. 8:28 REALLY BE RECKONED AS TRUE?

On Feb. 15/47 D. Glenn Chambers of New York boarded a plane on route to Quito to begin his ministry with the "Voice of the Andes". He never arrived. Not far from Bogota, the plane crashed into 14,000' peak of El Tablazo, and dropped, a flaming wreck into ravine below.

The last letter he wrote to his mother, was from Miami airport. He had picked up piece of advertizing on the flyleaf of which was single word "Why"? Around that word he scribbled a hasty and final note. So when mother received it, after news of his death, staring up into her face was that question. WHY. How do men react to tragedy? 1. Cynicism.. "cause God and die. 2. Stoicism.. Grin and bear it. If can't grin, grit teeth and bear it anyway or anyhow. 3. Epicurean.. "eat, drink.. tomorrow we die".

But X'n??? Falls back on Romans 8:28..endeavours make it a soft pillow for heart. But X'n does not always find that Paul's radiant certainty proved soft pillow. Instead it often turns out to be hard problem for head.

BECAUSE OF TWO FACTS:- 1. Text is much too sweeping..too unequal too glibly inclusive. ALL THINGS? Accident..crippling..some emotional disturbance that puts a mother out of her mind..death. 2. Text is much too dogmatic. Paul says "We KNOW" Does not say that our faith or pious hope..or some unproveable teaching that we believe anyway. We uncomfortably feel Paul's assertion is overly confident.. It smacks of naive optimism for which no solid evidence can be adduced. *No great problem off. lies before us.*

Take time think - seek truth

YET WE OUGHT RECOG.FOUR TRUTHS..transform hard problem into the soft pillow it ought to be. *Look at them*

1."All things WORK together for good...TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD.. TO THEM WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE".

Note first that Paul's confident assertion not so unqualified as first seems. Note ~~the~~ imp. matters here..First, this great declar. only embraces the X'n..."the called..who love God".

No chance in life of X'n^{2nd}..but man without God often prey of circumstances, fierce tides of evil, dread onslaught of demon powers. Second, ~~in life of called one God has a purpose.~~

W. ~~is it?~~ *(In vs. 29. Conformed to the image of His Son.* Goal of God, ~~EVERYTHING. All THINGS aim for that goal. God arranges the circumstances to that one end. We OUGHT to love Him~~

2."All things WORK together for good". Not accidental grouping of senseless matter..not operation of a cosmic freak..to produce good. All things WORK together. How? Ephes. 1:11. "By GOD. God is at work in whole process of life. And by infinite wisdom and power..HE WORKS things together. c/f Automobile factory.

Sir Arthur Eddington wrote:- "I am forced to believe that after all, behind all of science, behind nature, behind it all there is something".

Sir James Jeans, commenting on Sir Arthur's statement, wrote: "I am convinced that behind it all there is something more than this, there is a mathematical something".

(Two famous professors of Cambridge University, writing a series of magazine articles entitled "What I believe")

Dr. Barnhouse commented: When I get down on my knees beside my bed at night I do not say, "Dear Mathematical Something!" But I say, "Dear Heavenly Father"!

Meadow Park - Dak - FSCB - Nov 29/68
Boomerch - N Dak - Nov. 17/68
Terminish - meeting place - Oct 29/67
Whetstone - Y-T - Sept. 25/66 - (Bicent) CFWH
Vernon BC - CMA - Oct 10/65
Owen Sound - June 28/64
Mel. B.R. - Ottawa - May 17/64
Bethesda Church - Winnipeg - May 3/64

Eph. 1:11 "In whom also we have obtained ~~redemption~~
an inheritance, being predestinated according to the
purpose of him who WORKETH ALL THINGS after the
counsel of his own will."

Gen. 50:20 "But as for you, ye thought evil against
me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass,
as it is this day, to save much people alive."

Heb. 12:9-11 "Furthermore we have had fathers of our
flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence:
shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the
Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a
few days chastened us after their pleasure; but he
for our profit, that we might be partakers of his
holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth
to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward
it yieldeth the peacable fruit of righteousness
unto them which are exercised thereby."