

**Ro 8:27-28; 27** "And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **28** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Who searches the hearts? God. How do we know this? The bible tells us in:

- **1Ch 28:9** "*And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever.*"
- **1Co 2:10; 9** *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.*"
- **Re 2:23; 20** *Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.*"

It is easily discerned that God is the one that searches, and understands, the hearts of mankind. For what purpose? With Solomon in **1Ch 28:9**, we are told God is searching for perfect and willing hearts and minds to serve God. In **1Co 2:10**, God has given us, Children of God, the ability to discern the things which God hath prepared for them that love him, by revelation of the Spirit of God in man. In **Re 2:23**, God searcheth the hearts of those who profess to be Christians to see if they are serving God or the antichrist, herein described as the seductress Jezebel. God tells us, he will deal with us based upon what he finds in our hearts.

But how is it that God "**knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit?**" God the Father and God the Son both know the mind of God the Spirit because they all are of one mind, seen in: **1Jo 5:7** "*For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*"

"**because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.**" Who makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God? The Holy Spirit which indwells the born-again Child of God. How do we know that the Holy Spirit indwells a Child of God? Here is one of numerous texts: **Ro 8:9** "*But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*" The Holy Spirit will always make intercession for the Child of God according to the will of God.

"**And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God,**" First we ask: who do all things work together for good? The answer is: "**them that love God.**" If you do not have the Spirit of God in you, then you do not love God, because you are not yet a born-again child of God.

Now, to get to the true meaning of the text we began with, we must put it in proper context. Begin in: **Ro 8:16-39; 16** *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 ¶ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the*

*redemption of our body. 24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. 26 ¶ Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 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. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 ¶ What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

You should read the whole chapter but beginning at verse 16 will get us in context. We see that this text is addressed to God's people, who are born-again and indwelt by the Spirit of God. We see that these Children of God are living in time, and in hope. In hope of what? (We point out that this hope is not of eternal salvation.) In hope of the resurrected body which will be free of sin and the sufferings of this present world. The resurrected body that will be like that of the resurrected body of Christ Jesus. Wherefore, this scripture addresses our salvation in time and eternity.

We cannot get the full meaning of verses 27-28 without including verse 26 "*Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*" and the verses preceding. This addresses our time salvation while we wait for the eternal resurrection of the dead in Christ. In our flesh we do not know how to pray to God. Oftentimes, our fleshly infirmities will lead us to offer prayers that are not in accordance with the will of God. However, the Spirit that lives in us, which knows our every need, will intercede to God on our behalf for our very needs, while our bodies groan in suffering waiting in hope for the resurrection.

**"but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."** The groanings are not ours, they are the Spirit's. This is what happens when we find ourselves completely and utterly helpless in ourselves. Then there need be no verbal prayer, for true prayer arises from our hearts and souls, crying out to God through the Holy Spirit. We see an example of this in: **1Sa 1:13 "Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard:**" I believe every Child of God experiences this.

Thus we understand, no matter what happens to the body in this life, we have the hope of a resurrected body, which teaches us why Paul said in: **38 "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."**

**"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God"** The last question we need to answer is what are the "**all things**?" "**All things**" are the things that we will encounter in life as a Child of God. "**All things**" are the things God has providentially worked out for your time salvation, demonstrated through Jesus Christ and the things he suffered. As Jesus had to suffer many things in time, so we too shall suffer many things as we live for Christ. The "**all things**," we suffer in time, are used by God to draw us nearer to him, and to strengthen our faith and our belief in God and our eternal salvation, which was wrought by Jesus Christ. Sometimes it is needful that we experience the greatness of our God and Saviour. We need to experience the joy of God's salvation in our lives. "**All things**" will always work together for our good in the life of Christ in us.

Does "**all things**" mean that I can sin, and it works for my benefit? The answer is absolutely not. A true Child of God will not want to sin, should abhor sin, and the very appearance of evil. If you love God with all your heart,

mind, and soul, and your neighbor as yourself, where is there place for sin? There is none. God is not the cause of man to sin. When we sin, it is of our own accord, and was not the intent or will of God.

We believe this is what the verses tell us, when used in proper context. Live your Christian life, trusting fully in Christ. In tribulations draw nearer to God. In rejoicings draw nearer to God. In Christian fellowship draw nearer unto God. Live the Christian life looking for the time when our bodies will "***be conformed to the image of his Son***" in the eternal resurrection. Amen!