

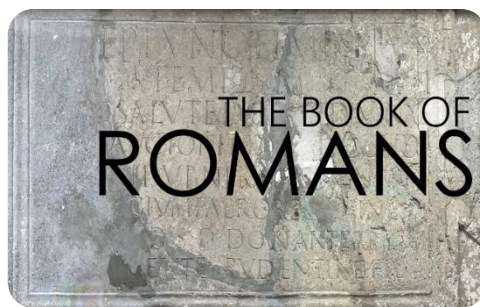
ROMANS 8 vs 26

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26 Likewise the Spirit also helps / in the same way greatly helps! This word is also used one other time; when Martha said, [Lord, have my sister help me.](#)

Matthew Henry writes, For this end the Holy Spirit was poured out. He heaves with us. He helps us in the same way we would help another lift their burden. It takes both doing their part. We must not sit still and expect the Spirit should do all.



In the same way: the Spirit also helps in our infirmities / we cannot do it without God; and He will not do it without us; this word is: **astheneia**; our frailties; our lack of strength... our weakness, indicating our inability to produce results.

Engraved on the lectern in Westminster Abbey where the word of God has gone to the world for hundreds of years, are these words written: **Attempt Great Things for God**. That is what this verse is talking about. Luther said, if we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing. We're losers! We're not strong enough.

We need the Spirit's help. But like Dr. Willard said, Don't pray about that! -- **We're praying for the Lord to help** -- you hear it in their halfhearted voice, don't you? If you need help to honor God's agenda, good;. Dr. Willard says, Don't pray halfheartedly. The Spirit has been willing to help for 2,000 years; so get on with it! Expect Him; welcome Him... and get going!

the Spirit also greatly helps in our weakness: for we know **not** what we should pray for / notice, the apostle Paul includes himself in this verse;

for what we should pray for as we ought, we do not know / we know we should pray, but we are not competent judges of our own condition; we are short-sighted, and very biased in favor of the flesh:

but even through our groanings / the New English bible says: **in our inarticulate stammering**. Paul says, even in our mumbling and grumbling; our vacant headed freeze, duh!

the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us / He greatly advocates on our behalf. And what is an advocate? One who **adds their voice**! And in our weakness, God adds His powerful voice. Matthew Henry said, It is not the rhetoric or eloquence, but the faith and fervency of our prayers that the Spirit works with us as an Intercessor in us.

27 And He who searches the hearts / it is God who examines the hearts. David confesses: [Against You only I sinned.](#) -- Psalm 51, and he continues, [Create in me a clean heart O God.](#) On this verse, Matthew Henry writes: to a hypocrite whose religion lies in his tongue, nothing is more dreadful than that God searches the heart and sees through all his disguises.

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And He, who searches the hearts, knows the mind of the spirit / in spite of our groanings; God knows the thoughts; nothing is hid from God, He knows what is in our mind...

because the Spirit makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God / He advocates for us; He adds His voice... for God's people... God's way. Many years ago, Dr. Dallas Willard of USC said: **the power of God is for the purposes of God in people He prepares.**

God examines the heart / the night Jesus was betrayed, **He said to His disciples, You are clean.** Can you imagine? He said that to people who were going to fail Him that very night! You are clean; but He added... **occasionally, you need your feet washed** -- **John 13**; because Jesus knows everywhere we walk... every creature expels crap daily, -- presidents and prelates; and educated elite; doctors and lawyers and CEO's and Hollywood performers included. There's big bovine crap; and medium chicken crap; and little rabbit crap; and pigs who wallow in their crap.

God examines the heart / He is eternal, He isn't bound to time; He can multitask and He knows we are stepping in crap daily; thankfully, the Spirit adds His voice: to God's people... going God's way.

²⁸ **And we know that all things... work together for good** / what a terrible translation; the drunk who crashes into a car and kills a family; the kid who shot that baby dead; and 10,000 times 10,000 other examples. That is not God... working His good!

All things do not work together for some amorphous good; some things are downright terrible; by the way, the word: things... is not in the Greek.

So, let's start this verse again...

And we know / Paul tells us about the Spirit making intercession for us. **That's good!**

the Spirit works together with us / to work His **good**, and His mercy; His grace, His peace in us. David wrote, **His goodness; His mercy follows me all the days of my life** -- **Psalms 23: That's good!**

as He greatly helps us, and He adds **His voice** to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose / and **that's good**, too!

So, knowing all that...

we know in all / in the best or worst situation... there is no circumstance, no event, no experience that the Spirit will not enter into; He is willing to put all He is, all His life and reputation on the line to advance the purposes of God.

we know in all, the Spirit will work together with us, to work His good.

Paul says...

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we know in all / nothing excluded: good or bad;

to all them who love God / the Spirit is there;

to work all His good, and His mercy, too!

[The Spirit and the Bride Say Come](#) | [This is My Father's World](#)

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[I'll Dance Like David](#) | [JESUS it is YOU](#) | [I Love You Yasua](#)

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