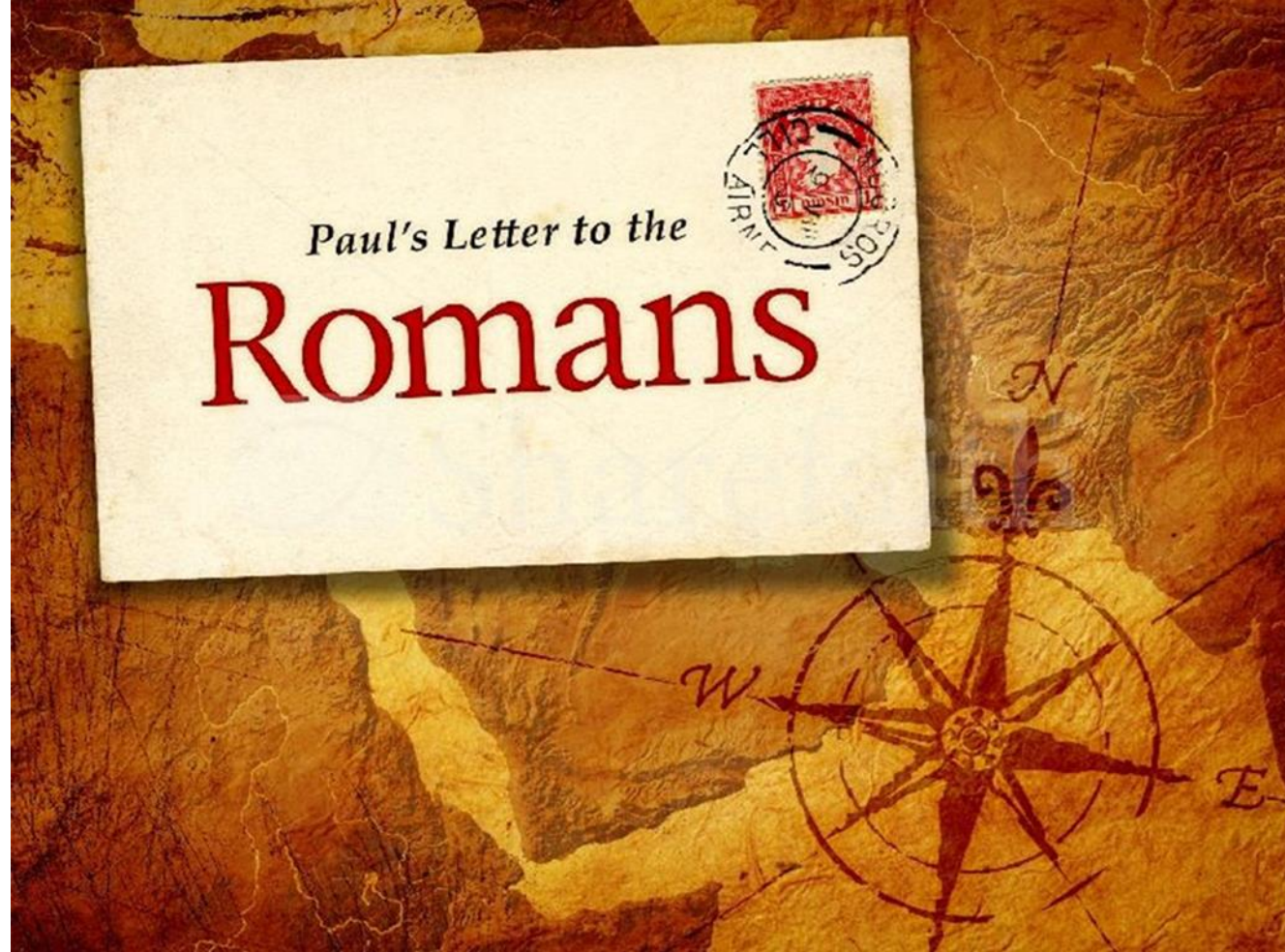


This Week's Passage:

Romans 8:28-30

Romans 8:28-30

- ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
- ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
- ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.



**The Holy Spirit and Abundant Living
(Romans 8:28-30)**

“Intellectual Humility”

4 PILLARS TO BUILD INTELLECTUAL HUMILITY



Respect for
other
viewpoints



Low
Intellectual
Overconfidence



Ideas
separated
from
Identity



Willingness to
review
viewpoints

Courtesy of Fearless Culture



Fearless
Culture

I. How Can All Things Work Together for Good?

(Romans 8:28)

- ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
- ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God, God works in all things for the good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
- ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God, God works all things together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Five Unshakeable Convictions of God's Providential Care (John Stott)

Unshakeable Convictions

1. We know that *God works*, or is at work, in our lives
2. God is at work *for the good* of his people
(The “good” is “our ultimate well-being, namely, our final salvation.”)
3. God works for our good *in all things*
(God is working even the sufferings in our lives for our ultimate good in his eternal plan of salvation.)
4. God works in all things for the good of *those who love him*
(Not a superficial optimism that everything will work for everyone’s good, but only for those who love God.)
5. Those who love God are also described as those *who have been called according to his purpose.*

God has a purpose and works all things together to bring it to pass

- ¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.
- ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God?”
- ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

--Genesis 50:18-20 (ESV)

A Challenging Combination of Words (Romans 8:29-30)

- ²⁹ For those whom he **foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also **called**, and those whom he called he also **justified**, and those whom he justified he also **glorified**.

Term	Definition
Foreknew	Can see what will happen
Predestined	Decides what will happen
Called	Present an opportunity “Effectual call”?
Justified	Considered “righteous”; acquitted of sins
Glorified	Raised up A new body in a new heaven and earth

II. How Good Comes About: A Calvinist/Reformed Perspective (Romans 8:29-30)

- ²⁹ For those whom he **foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also **called**, and those whom he called he also **justified**, and those whom he justified he also **glorified**.
- R.C. Sproul, St. Augustine, John Calvin, Jonathan Edwards
- Starting point: God's Sovereignty
- Beneficial: Increases our humility and adoration of God
- Challenge: Why are some people "saved" and others are not?


III. How Good Comes About: An Arminian/Wesleyan Perspective (Romans 8:29-30)

- ²⁹ For those whom he **foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also **called**, and those whom he called he also **justified**, and those whom he justified he also **glorified**.
- Advocates: Billy Graham
- Starting point: Human Free Will
- Beneficial: All have the opportunity to be “saved”
- Challenge: Can lead to a doctrine of salvation by “works” (a decision)

Takeaways



1. Our Understanding is “Limited”



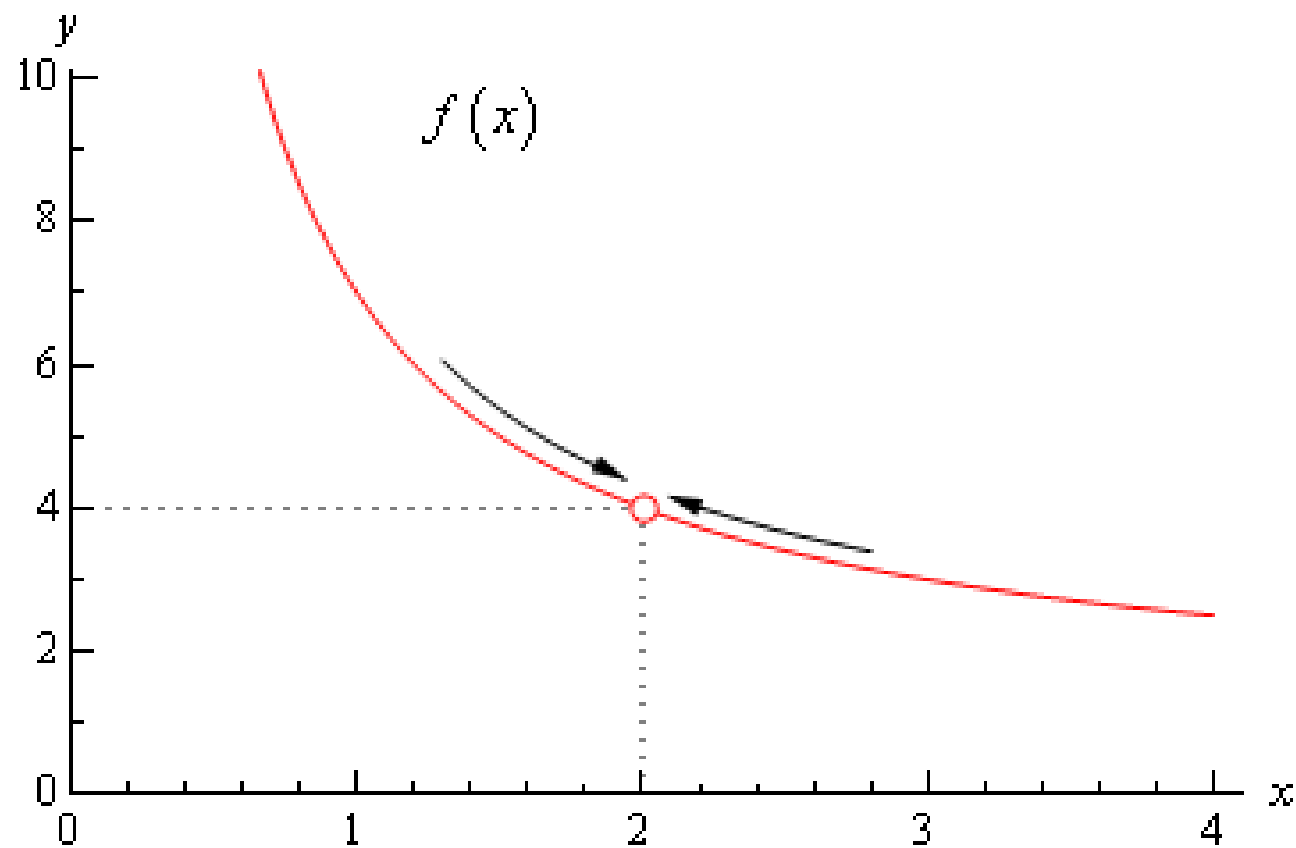
LIMITED

What is the “Limit”?

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 - 5x + 6}{x - 3}$$

Mathmeeting.com

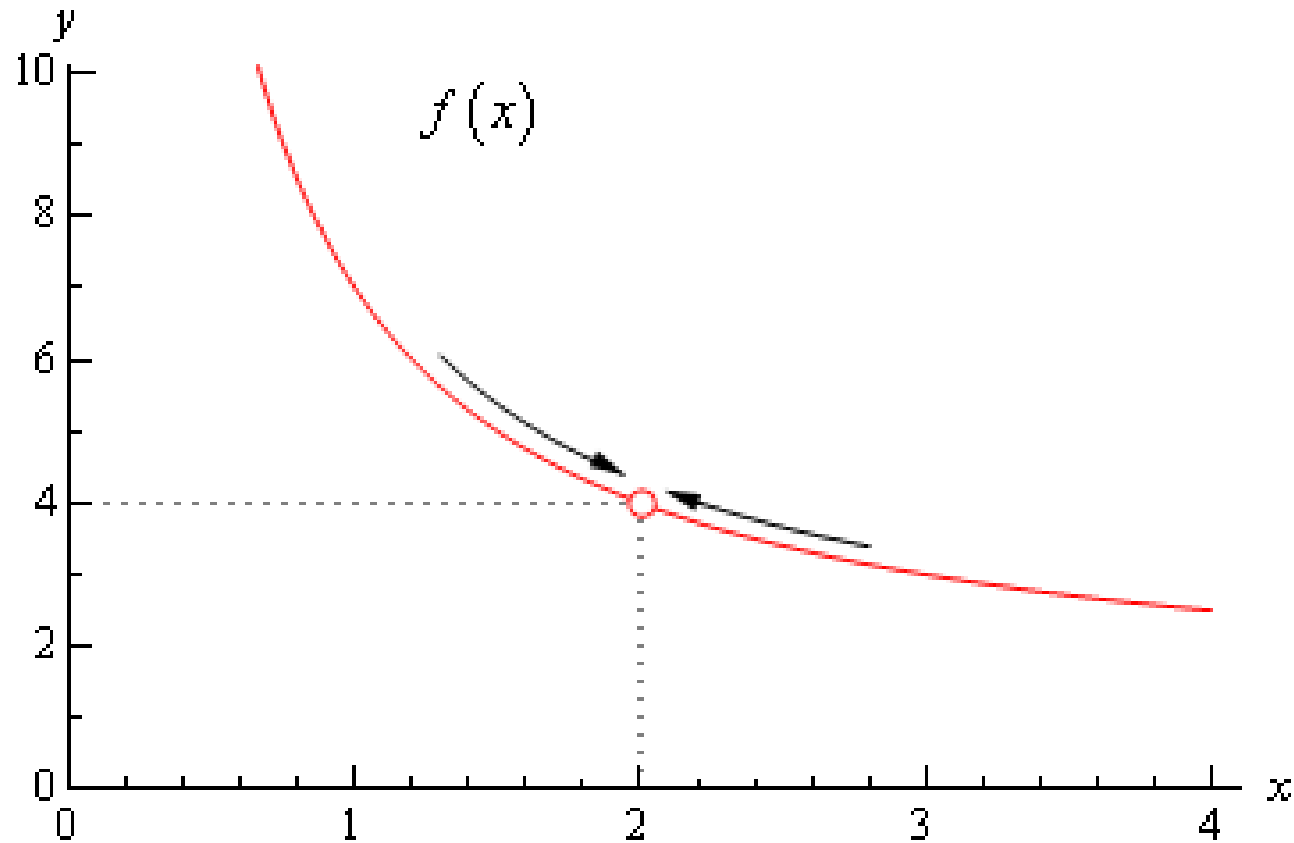
Mathematics: A “Limit”



“Soteriology”:

(The study of salvation, of how someone is “saved”)

The Moment of Salvation



2. A “Micah Moment”

- Juggling two seemingly contradictory objectives . . .
- He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to **do justice**, and to **love kindness**,
and to **walk humbly** with your God?

(Micah 6:8)

2. A “Micah Moment”

- Juggling two seemingly contradictory objectives . . .
- ⁸ For **by grace** you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

(Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV)



Let Us Pray

A photograph of two hands raised in prayer, holding a glowing white cross. The hands are silhouetted against a bright, golden sunset sky with clouds. The sun is visible through the cross, creating a lens flare effect. The background shows a horizon line over water.