

Romans 11:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

Analysis

The doxology climaxes: **For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things**—hoti ex autou kai di autou kai eis auton ta panta (ὅτι ἐξ αὐτοῦ καὶ δι’ αὐτοῦ καὶ εἰς αὐτὸν τὰ πάντα). Three prepositions declare God's total sovereignty: ex (ἐκ, "from")—God is the source; dia (διά, "through")—God is the means/sustainer; eis (εἰς, "to")—God is the goal. All things exist from Him (creation), through Him (providence), to Him (glorification). God is Alpha and Omega.

To whom be glory for ever. Amen (autō hē doxa eis tous aiōnas, amēn, αὐτῷ ἡ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰώνας, ἀμήν). The word doxa (δόξα, "glory") is God's due. The phrase eis tous aiōnas (εἰς τοὺς αἰώνας, "unto the ages") means eternally. Amēn (ἀμήν, "so be it") seals the doxology. Paul concludes Romans 9-11 not with debate but worship. Theology rightly done leads to doxology. God's plan to save both Jew and Gentile by grace through faith glorifies Him forever. This is the goal of all things.

Historical Context

Ancient doxologies were common in Jewish and Christian worship. Paul's threefold prepositional formula echoes Stoic philosophy but Christianizes it: the universe exists not for impersonal Fate but for the personal God who saves. Romans 11:36 became a classic Trinitarian text (from the Father, through the Son, to the Spirit's glory).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do the three prepositions ('from,' 'through,' 'to') capture God's total sovereignty over creation and redemption?
2. Why is doxology the fitting conclusion to theological argument about election, hardening, and salvation?
3. How does giving God glory 'forever' shape your daily life and priorities right now?

Interlinear Text

ὅτι ἐξ αὐτῷ καὶ δι' αὐτῷ καὶ εἰς αὐτῷ τὰ
For of him and through him and for him G3588

πάντα· αὐτῷ ἡ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας ἀμήν
are all things him be glory for G3588 ever Amen G281

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 8:6 (Parallel theme): But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

Hebrews 2:10 (Glory): For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

1 Timothy 1:17 (Glory): Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Acts 17:28 (Parallel theme): For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Romans 16:27 (Glory): To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

Jude 1:25 (Glory): To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Revelation 21:6 (Parallel theme): And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Psalms 115:1 (Glory): Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

Proverbs 16:4 (Parallel theme): The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

2 Peter 3:18 (Glory): But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.