

## Romans 8:31-39 God's Unfailing Love and the Security of the Believer

### **Text**

<sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; <sup>34</sup>who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>Just as it is written,

"For Your sake we are being put to death all day long;  
We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup>But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Key Points in the text**

- It is God who keeps us in Himself, it is not by our power.
- The work of Jesus is undefeatable.
- The love of Jesus is unbroken.

### **Text Study**

Verse 31: The Question

#### **<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say to these things?**

After learning all that God has done to save His Children in chapters 1-8, Paul now wants to ask us some questions.

These questions are there to help us not to fear the suffering and persecution to come, or think that we may go back to what we were.

Verses 31b-34: The Work of Christ (His humiliation and death on the cross)

#### **<sup>31b</sup>If God is for us, who is (can be) against us?**

Paul here is asking you, in the face of the suffering that is required, are you afraid, of your enemy, of your sinful flesh, of not being able to stand firm?

Verse 32-34 Paul's response to his own question, by asking you more questions.

**<sup>32</sup>He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; <sup>34</sup>who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.**

Paul says, look at all that Jesus has done, do you think He has not done enough? Do you think He will not be faithful to His promise to be with us? Do you think that the Spirit within you will go on vacation and leave you unprotected?

Then in verses 33 and 34 he reminds us of what he wrote earlier in this chapter, The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.

It is as if Paul is pointing to the cross and saying, do you think the work Christ did on the cross was not good enough? He also reminds us that Jesus is working still to protect you by interceding for you.

Verses 35-39: The Love of God and the Love of Christ

**<sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>Just as it is written,**

**“For Your sake we are being put to death all day long;**

**We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”**

**<sup>37</sup>But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Don't look at this question as if it is saying who can overcome our ability to prevent separation from God. Rather it is saying who can overcome God's Love for His children and separate them from Him.

Verse 37: Proof that it is about God's hold on us not our's on Him.

Other scripture that shows us that we overcome through the power of God.

**1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

- Remember all of these things are under the supervision of God.

**Deuteronomy 31:6** Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you.”

**Isaiah 41:10** Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

- This is why Paul says to the church in Philippi to not fear their adversary. Fearing displays a lack of trust in God.

**Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

- Withstanding all these things can seem impossible to us, but it is He who strengthens us so we can have peace.

Verses 38-39: Just in case you were unsure, nothing in creation can overcome God's love for us.

**<sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

## **Application**

- Be strong and courageous in all things knowing that God is with us and will faithfully bring us home to Himself.
- The Holy Spirit will not condemn His children (that is Satan's trick), but he will convict us of our sin. Hear that conviction and respond in repentance and prayer.
- Rejoice in the Lord and again I say, Rejoice.

## **Next Week's Lesson Prep/Preview**

Text: Romans 9:1-29

Focus: God's Sovereign Choice

Devotional: Ephesians 1:3-7

Preparation: Baptist Catechism questions 23, 24, and 93

Question 23: Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

Answer: God having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life (Eph. 1:4, 5), did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer (Rom. 3:20-22; Gal. 3:21, 22).

Question 24: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

Answer: The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Tim. 2:5, 6); who, being the eternal Son of God, became man (John 1:14; Gal. 4:4), and so was and continueth to be God and man in two distinct natures, and one person for ever (Rom. 9:5; Lk. 1:35; Col. 2:9; Heb. 7:24, 25).

Question 93: What are the outward means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption?

Answer: The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption are his ordinances, especially the word, baptism, the Lord's supper, and prayer; all which means are made effectual to the elect for salvation (Mt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:42, 46, 47).