

Romans 8:31–39

- <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
- <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?
- <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.
- <sup>34</sup> Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
- <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
- <sup>36</sup> As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."
- <sup>37</sup> Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.
- <sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,
- <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***What Shall We Say to these Things?***  
***Romans 8:31-39***

INTRO:

**Romans 8** opened on the note that says if we are in Christ Jesus, there is no condemnation waiting for us. After teaching us about the present ministry of the Holy Spirit in us, and that suffering will come, Paul closes his great chapter assuring us there can be separation from the love of God in Christ Jesus. There are three sets of questions and answers which make this clear.

***I. If God Be For Us Who Is Against Us? (v. 31-32)***

***II. Who Can Bring a Charge against God's Select Ones? (v. 33-34)***

***III. What Can Separate Us from the Love of God? (v.35-39)***

***I. If God Be For Us Who Is Against Us? (v.31-32)***

**Romans 8:31–32** *“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”*

A. God who before time loved us and predestinated us to be conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ, in time called us and justified us so we are saved, and in eternity to come will glorify us. Since we absorbed the truth of **verse 29 and 30**, we are destined to ask the question the Apostle Paul asks. *“What then shall we say to these things?”*

B. What follows in the rest of Romans 8 is the application of this timeless reality. The first thing that flows from this reality is found in the truth in the answer to this question. *“If God is for us, who can be against us?”* Truthfully, I have for years had trouble convincing myself that God was for me. Because this is true, I want to make sure you know whether God is for you or not. The answer does not hinge on how good or worthy you think you are. It is all about whether Jesus is your Savior.

1. First we must realize God is an all-holy God and we are not in our natural state holy at all. We would be lost except God send His Son, God the Son into the world to live a sinless life and then to die as a substitute for our sins.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** *“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*

2. The way to receive God’s gift of salvation and to know God is for you is to follow **Romans 10:9-10**.

*“If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

C. When I said, I have had trouble believing God was for me was not because I had doubts God saved me. I didn’t. I just could not bring myself to believe God was for someone with the spiritual struggles I have. God taught me the truth in through **Psalm 118:6** and how it is quoted in **Hebrews 13:5-6**.

*“Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”*

D. Now recognize Paul’s infallible logic. *“If God is for us, who can be against us?”* Lest we still question, Paul added in **verse 32**.

***“He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”***

God being for us had nothing to do with us. It has everything to do with whether Jesus Christ is ours. Since God gave us His Son, we know everything God promises in His Son shall come to pass. This is the blessing of **Romans 8:28** and **29-30**.

### ***II. Who Can Bring a Charge against God’s Select Ones? (v. 33-34)***

**Romans 8:33–34** ***“Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”***

A. We might think, *“Oh no, I may not make it because Satan will bring a charge against me.”* Paul answered this concern by pointing out we belong to God because He selected us and because God Himself has declared us righteous. I know this language makes many uncomfortable. Don’t let Satan steal your blessing. Paul did not say we were faithless, we did exercise faith. However, Paul is emphasizing the divine sovereignty side of the coin of salvation because that is what guarantees the blessing and makes us recognize how much God is for us.

B. ***“Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”***

The unspoken He, who condemns us is probably Satan, the accuser of the brethren. The Lord Jesus will not join Satan in the complaint, because He died to pay the price for our sin. Not only did He die, He also rose again to show that God the Father has accepted his sacrifice. He also ever lives to minister for us in prayer every step of our earthly pilgrimage. He did not leave us without protection and provision.

### ***III. What Can Separate Us from the Love of God? (v.35-39)***

**v.35** ***“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?”***

A. This last question takes in the rest of the chapter. **Verse 35** reads almost like the catalogue of Paul’s sufferings in **2 Corinthians 11** and **12**.

1. Paul then cites a memory verse from the LXX of **Psalm 44:22**. What a strange verse to quote, except if we realize that God never promised us a rose garden. He never said Christians would go through life without trouble. The fact is even the most difficult troubles do not mean that God has forsaken His own. **Verse 37** assures us,

***“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”***

2. **Verses 38-39** put the exclamation point to Paul’s argument. Notice the couplets:

**life or death;  
angels or rulers;  
things present or things to come;  
heights nor depths.**

There are two that break up the order of twos: powers, and any other created thing.

What is not covered? Nothing is left out. Paul touched on every possible circumstance. Nothing can separate us from God's love for us who are in Christ Jesus.

3. Why? It is not because we keep ourselves saved. From **8:28** to the end of this chapter, this is all about what the Lord did and does for us. If we have honestly come to Him by faith, He holds us fast.

***Two Issues are important here.***

First, this was not written so we could sin and believe we do not have to worry about our salvation. Rather this is written for the same reason John wrote the first chapter of **1**

**John. 1 John 2:1** says,

***“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”***

Second, this was written so we understand the blessings that the Lord Jesus Christ purchased for us. These are blessings we enjoy by grace through faith. Thus we will glorify Him and live out our lives wanting to do nothing else than to live for Him who died for us.

***He Will Hold Me Fast***