

Morning Sermon Outline
January 3, 2016, Romans 8:31-39
“If God Be for Us”

What we say to “these things” is - “If God is for us, who can be against us?” How can we be certain God is for us, especially as we endure the trials of this shaky world?

I. God gave us the Greatest Gift –

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? (Romans 8:32 NKJ)

1. Note, here what God did not do for His only Son – He ... “did not spare His own Son” (Romans 8:32 NKJ)

God the Father did not spare His own Son, from the wrath, we deserved for our sins –

¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. (Isaiah 53:10 NKJ)

“Did not spare” means there was no easing, of God’s wrath directed at His Son! It means that when Jesus cried from the cross -

⁴⁶ ... “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matthew 27:46 NKJ) *There was not even the slightest lessening of wrath due sin, which was aimed at and hit Jesus Christ, there was no softening of the blows –*

Revelation 14:10-11 speaks powerfully of the great suffering of souls who will endure, eternal Hell –

“he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.”¹¹ “And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.” (Revelation 14:10-11 NKJ)

Wrath is poured out in “full strength” / their torment is forever -

Christ bore in time, on the cross, the same pain, rejection, humiliation which those in Hell will endure for eternity! “Not spare” means this!

2. Note, what God did do to His Son, for us – “but delivered Him up for us all” (Romans 8:32b NKJ)

How was Christ “delivered up” for us?

A. He was made sin for us –

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

B. He was made a curse – (in order to redeem us from the curse) Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), (Galatians 3:13 NKJ)

C. He was delivered to the wills and ways of Godless men – Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.¹³ They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion. (Psalm 22:12-13 NKJ)

For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; (Psalm 22:16 NKJ)

And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe.³ Then they said, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they struck Him with their hands. (John 19:2-3 NKJ)

D. He was delivered to be crucified –
¹⁵ **But they cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!”¹⁶ Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away. (John 19:14-16 NKJ)**

Now surely on Man’s Part, all these actions, like Joseph’s brothers selling Him into slavery, were meant for evil, but on God’s part they were intended for good –

⁵ **and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ)**

“Who delivered up Jesus to die? Not Judas, for money; not Pilate, for fear; not the Jews, for envy;—but the Father, for love!” Octavius Winslow

3. Note, in these both what God did do and will do, “for us” – but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32 NKJ)

I read this year of an NBA player who gave his father a Cadillac Escalade for Christmas, the top of the line, if he gave such a car, would he deny his dad the floor-mats that go with it? Or the keys? Of course not! If God gives us the most expensive, the most valuable, should we not expect everything else that we really need?

² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, (2 Peter 1:2-3 NKJ)

II. *God defends us from the worst enemies, shields us from all, even deserved condemnation – who can be against us?* (Romans 8:31 NKJ)

³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is God who justifies.*
³⁴ 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.* (Romans 8:33-34 NKJ)

God's people often have the worst enemies –

1. *Cain had Abel, we have the world – not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.* ¹³ Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you. (1 John 3:12-13 NKJ))

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. (John 15:18 NKJ)

We can read these things as Jacob once did –

³⁶ And Jacob their father said to them, "You have bereaved me: Joseph is no more, Simeon is no more, and you want to take Benjamin. All these things are against me." (Genesis 42:36 NKJ)

He said these things because he was not yet at the end of God's working in his life, he was not seeing the full picture yet –

¹⁵ And he blessed Joseph, and said: "God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, The God who has fed me all my life long to this day, ¹⁶ The Angel who has redeemed me from all evil, ... (Genesis 48:15-16 NKJ)

If we suffer in this life it is only temporary, if we are in Christ we are not condemned: No true charge can be brought against us when it is God who justifies / No one can condemn us when Christ has died for us, raised and is even at God's right hand advocating for us!

III. *God loves us with a love, from which, we cannot be separated –*

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?* ³⁶ As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ 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. (Romans 8:35-39 NKJ)

1. *In verse :35 we have a list of potential enemies who cannot separate us from Christ's Love*
2. *In verse :36 we have the sad reality of what evil men can and do perpetrate against believers, Christ's sheep –*
3. *Yet, in verses :37-39 we have the glad reality of our eternal state, even in spite of the fact men may be able to kill the body*

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⁴ "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. ⁵ "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him! ⁶ "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷ "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. (Luke 12:4-7 NKJ)

No enemy, no matter how fierce or powerful, can separate us from God's Love --- In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

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