

Romans Chapter 8 Third Continued

Romans 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God [be] for us, who [can be] against us?"

The Greek construction is better translated "Since God is for us."

We read (in 1 Corinthians):

1 Corinthians 8:12 "But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ."

God fights for us and gives us the victory. God causes even our enemies to live at peace with us, if we are Christians. Those who are opposed to God's people are really opposed to God.

Romans 8:32 "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

The hardest thing for the carnal mind to understand is why God would sacrifice His Son for a bunch of sinners.

We read in Romans Chapter 5:

Romans Chapter 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Paul's point was, would God do less for His children than He did for His enemies?

The amazing thing is that God loves the worst sinner. God provided through His Son a way out for all. Jesus died for all sin. The way out is through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The problem is that many will not accept this way out and therefore will die in their sin. The beautiful story in Genesis in the O.T. of Abraham about to sacrifice his son Isaac, is a type and shadow of God sacrificing His Son for all of mankind.

A type or shadow is not exact in every detail, but makes you think of the happening it is shadowing. Both Abraham and God were about to sacrifice the one who meant the very most to them. In the case of Abraham, God stopped him and gave him a substitute. In God's case, there was no one greater than Himself to stop him.

Jesus Christ (the only begotten of the Father), was the substitute for all mankind. The greatest gift of love in all time was God loving us enough to give His Son to save us. We deserved to die on that cross, but God the Son took our place for us. He was our substitute.

We read earlier in Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of God [is] eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

1 Corinthians chapter 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit."

God has given us life in Jesus Christ. What more can we ask?

Romans 8:33 "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? [It is] God that justifieth."

No charge is admissible, because the Father justifies, in that the Son died, was raised and now intercedes for us. Who can successfully accuse someone whom God has declared righteous?

Some young children learned the hard way not to insult God's elect (in 2 Kings 2:23-24). They had made fun of Elisha's bald head. Elisha cursed them in the name of the Lord and 42 of them were torn of she bears. It is a very dangerous thing to say bad things about God's elect.

Another example of how God will not allow this is when Miriam spoke against Moses and became leprous. She was cleansed when Moses prayed for her (Numbers 12:10).

These 2 instances remind us not to come against God's elect. God fights their battles for them. We who are God's are not justified by our own deeds but we are justified because we have been cleansed by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We are justified, because we have taken on the righteousness of Christ.

Romans 8:34 "Who [is] he that condemneth? [It is] Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

There are four reasons the believer can never be found guilty. Take note of what verse 34 says as it gets into real specifics.

1. Christ died for our sins.
2. He rose again.
3. He sits at the right hand of the Father.
4. He is constantly reminding God that He died to pay the cost for our sins (intercessor).

Hebrews 7:24-25 "But this [man], because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood." "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

Romans 8:35 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? [shall] tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"

This list of experiences that can't separate the believer from God's love in Christ was not just theory to Paul. It was rather personal testimony from one who had personally survived assaults from these entities and emerged triumphant.

This scripture isn't speaking of our love for Christ, but His love for us which He demonstrated in our salvation.

"Persecution" is indicative of suffering that is inflicted upon us by mankind because of our relationship with Christ.

This scripture asks a very interesting question. In the parable of the sower (in Matthew 13:3), we read about how different people were affected by the cares of the world and turned aside from the love of God. One did not understand the Word (love), he had received, and the evil one immediately took it away.

(In Matthew 13:21), we read of another who was slightly stronger than the one mentioned, but in the face of tribulation and persecution lost out.

(Matthew 13:22), tells of someone who the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches caused to fail.

Out of all of the seed (word or love) sown, there was one who received it and nothing or no one could take it away. This person was not only "not shaken" by all the problems that came, but actually went out and brought others to the Lord. Problems did not stop this person; it just made him stronger and more determined to do the will of God.

Romans 8:36 "As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."

Since Jesus was crucified, there have been men and women who were willing to be martyred (killed), to bring the true message of God. Paul in writing this could be speaking of himself. He was stoned, ship-wrecked, beaten and left for dead, but he never gave up the cause of Jesus Christ. We are sheep, if we are followers of Jesus Christ (the great Shepherd). The sheep will follow the Shepherd even to death of his body.

Psalm 44:22 "Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter."

Romans 8:37 "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

"More than conquerors" is a compound Greek word, which means to over conquer, to conquer completely without any real threat to personal life or health.

A true follower of Jesus Christ will not turn back from those problems listed (in verse 35). We know that Jesus has won the victory. These little battles are nothing. Jesus won the war at Calvary. Our strength is in Jesus.

Romans 8:38 "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,"

Principalities are fallen angels or demons. Powers: the plural form of this common word for "power" is used to refer to either miracles or to persons in positions of authority.

Romans 8:39 "Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

We can not be separated from God's love, because it is set forth in a person who is God Himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. God's desire to redeem believers cannot be frustrated, because He is infinitely greater than any potential enemy. His plan will be realized because it is His purpose.

I think the book of (Ephesians 2:18-22), says it all.

"For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner [stone];" "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord:" "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."

We are in Him and He is in us. How can you separate that?

Romans Chapter 8 Third Continued Questions

1. If God be for us, _____ can be against us?
2. 1 Corinthians 8:12 says if ye sin against the brethren, you are really sinning against whom?
3. Who did the Father God not spare to help us?
4. What does verse 32 say He will freely give us?
5. What is the hardest thing for the carnal mind to understand?
6. While we were yet in _____, Christ died for us.
7. What Old Testament character is a type and shadow of God the Father?
8. What is the difference between the shadow and the real Father?
9. What is the greatest show of the Father's love to mankind?
10. The first Adam was made a living _____.
11. The second Adam (Jesus Christ) was made a _____.
12. Who justifies the elect?

13. Give two examples of how dangerous it is to be against God's elect.
14. Who is He that condemneth?
15. Where is Christ now?
16. Who intercedes for the Christians?
17. Who is the judge of all the world?
18. What two animals describe the two sides of good and evil?
19. Where do we find the Scripture that tells us of this?
20. What four things must we believe?
21. Verse 35 asks a question about six things that might separate us from the love of Christ?
What are they?
22. What does the parable of the sower from Matthew the 13th Chapter show us?
23. What is meant by us being killed all the day long?
24. What are we called in verse 37?
25. Who won the war and when?
26. In verses 38-39, many things are named that cannot separate us from the love of God, name a few.
27. What does Ephesians 2:18-22 tell us about the Christians and Jesus?