

Romans 8:31-39—The Triumphant Victory Of The Life In The Spirit

Memory Verse

Romans 12:1-2 NKJV

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Revision for Romans 8:26-30—God Causes Everything To Work Together For The Good Of Those Who Love God:

Romans 8:26-30 NKJV

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Last time in Romans 8:26-30 we saw that:

- God created us weak (in the sense that we are totally unable to do God's will in our own strength) so that we must learn to depend on Him if we are going to experience the abundant or Spirit filled life.
- Our greatest weakness is that we **do not know what we should pray for as we ought [as we should, as is necessary]... according to the will of God**, so the Spirit helps us by interceding for us (asking, pleading, petitioning on our behalf).
- It's only as we walk in the Spirit that the trials will benefit us, otherwise we will get bitter instead of better. When God sends a trial, and we are walking in the Spirit, our faith, perseverance, and godly character will grow. Remember that the context of Romans chapter 8 is the Spirit filled life—"not my will but Your's be done". Trials are often a test to see if we are walking in the Spirit or not—we tell by our response—do I get bitter and complain, or thank God for the trial and experience fullness of joy (see John 15:7-11).
- **All things** includes all the trials that God allows, but *not* the suffering that we choose to bring on ourselves. When we sin we wound and damage ourselves—we experience "death" (the evil and destructive fruit of the sinful nature)—this is not God's will for us. Many times our own foolish decisions will prevent us from being able to, or will disqualify us, from being able to walk in and enjoy God's foreordained plan for our lives (see 1 Corinthians 9:27).
- God knows all things, including the free choice that we will make concerning salvation, before they happen: He has perfect foreknowledge.
- God in His sovereignty has **predestined**, or declared to be, some things. When God declares something to be or happen, then nothing can change the outcome, it is fixed.

- God in His foreknowledge knows from eternity past those who will exercise their free will or choice to repent and receive Him as their Saviour. He then predestines those people to receive many extra undeserved blessings: being conformed to the image of Jesus (perfect, holy, glorious), receiving a glorious resurrection body, and receiving full adoption rights in the family of God (also see Ephesians 1:3-6—believers receive these blessings because they are in Christ, because they have been redeemed and their sin debt paid). Again, every believer is guaranteed these additional blessings—God is so sure about it that He refers to them in the past tense, even though we haven’t received them yet (see v 30).
- Like the believer’s salvation from the penalty of sin, these blessings are all of grace—our God is a generous God who by nature loves to give.
- Because believers are predestined to receive all these gifts, it is an extra assurance that we can never lose our salvation, and that God’s wonderful plan for us can never fail, no matter how much we may stumble and fail as believers.

Warren W. Wiersbe has a great summary of Romans 8:26-30:

“The believer never need faint in times of suffering and trial because he knows that God is at work in the world (Romans 8:28), and that He has a perfect plan (Romans 8:29). God has two purposes in that plan: our good and His glory. Ultimately, He will make us like Jesus Christ! Best of all, God’s plan is going to succeed! It started in eternity past when He chose us in Christ (Ephesians 1:4–5). He predetermined that one day we would be like His Son. Predestination applies only to saved people. Nowhere are we taught that God predestines people to be eternally condemned. If they are condemned, it is because of their refusal to trust Christ (John 3:18–21). Those whom He chose, He called (see 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14); when they responded to His call, He justified them, and He also glorified them. This means that the believer has already been glorified in Christ (John 17:22); the revelation of this glory awaits the coming of the Lord (Romans 8:21–23). How can we Christians ever be discouraged and frustrated when we already share the glory of God? Our suffering today only guarantees that much more glory when Jesus Christ returns!”

Romans 8:31-39—The Triumphant Victory Of The Life In The Spirit

Summary:

“The emphasis in this final section is on the security of the believer. We do not need to fear the past, present, or future because we are secure in the love of Christ.” (Warren W. Wiersbe)

Outline:

We will look at the five reasons Paul gives as to why there can be no separation between the believer and the Lord.

1. Rejoice! Since God is for us, who can be against us? (v 31)
2. The greatest evidence of the Father’s love for us—the gift of His Son Jesus (v 32)
3. God has justified us—believers are eternally declared to be “not guilty” (v 33)
4. Christ intercedes for us—the believer has been lawyered up with an advocate (defense lawyer) Who cannot lose! (v 34)
5. Christ loves us—nothing is more powerful than His love and so nothing can separate us from His love (v 35-39)

Romans 8:31-39 NKJV

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 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? 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. ³⁵ 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.

1. Rejoice! Since God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:31 NKJV

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:31 NLT

What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

Romans 8:31 AMP

What then shall we say to [all] this? If God is for us, who [can be] against us? [Who can be our foe, if God is on our side?] [Ps. 118:6.]

v 31 **What then shall we say to these things? (NKJV), What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? (NLT):** Paul is speechless. Why? Consider what we have learned so far in Romans chapter 8. Those who exercise their free moral choice (free will), to repent of their sins and believe in Christ as their Saviour Who saves them from their sins, will have their sins forgiven—their sin debt is paid. They are justified; there is no longer any sin separating them from God. Therefore, they are forever joined to Christ, they are *in Christ*.

Colossians 1:27 NLT

For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: **Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.**

As believers, because we are **in Christ Jesus**, we have many spiritual benefits (these are just those which are listed in Romans chapter 8):

- There is no condemnation—believers are eternally not guilty or justified (v 1)
- We have been set free from the law of sin and death (the natural frustrating and sinful tendency to do the wrong thing when we try to do the right thing) (v 2)
- Because of what Jesus did on the cross, God's righteousness can now be fulfilled *in us* (by God's power working through us—Galatians 2:20), and not *by us* (by our own effort) (vs 3-4)
- We have God's power in us (the Holy Spirit), and so have the free choice to put to death the desires of the sinful nature and so enjoy fellowship with God as we submit ourselves to the Spirit and allow Him to control us (vs 5-6, 12-13)

- We have been given the Holy Spirit within us as a promise or guarantee that we belong to God (v 9-10)
- We have the promise that we will receive a glorious resurrection body (v 11)
- Believers have full or adult adoption rights into God's family, including being co-heirs with Christ and sharing His glory (vs 14-17, also see John 17:22)
- Believers are promised, along with creation, to be delivered from death and decay—the result of the curse (18-25)
- The Holy Spirit helps us in our weaknesses by interceding for us according to the will of God (v 26-27)
- God promises to override our weaknesses and the negative influence of others to cause the circumstances that are a part of His perfect will (not those sufferings which are self-inflicted by our own selfish choices), so that they will cause us to be conformed into the image or likeness of Jesus, as well as give us a new, glorious, resurrection body (v 28-30)

King David was also speechless when God blessed him with the promise that the Messiah would be one of his descendants. Jon Courson comments:

“When Nathan told David that, although he wouldn't be able to build a temple for the Lord, the Lord wanted to establish His royal line through David, David was amazed. “What can I say?” he said (see 2 Samuel 7:18–20)—which was quite a question for David to ask, considering the psalmist had a way with words, and was perhaps more skilled in expression than anyone else in history. Yet here he was, speechless in response to God's kindness to him.

Do you ever feel that way? The Lord touches you and ministers to you, gives you a verse in your devotional time, or impresses you with a truth as you're driving in your car, or looking at your grandchildren or wife—and you just become overwhelmed at the goodness and mercy of God. I believe praise often reaches its highest point when we're speechless, blown away by His mercy and grace.” (Jon Courson)

v 31 If [since] God is [unconditionally] for us [genuine repentant believers], who can be against us? In verses 28-30, Paul has just told us of God's wonderful, affectionate, and loving heart, and how He has unconditionally (based only on His own inherent goodness and generosity) decided to bless all those who choose to receive the gracious gift of His Son Jesus Christ. Before we were even born, before we had done anything good or bad, God chose all those who whom He knew in advance (foreknew) would choose Him, and predestined (unconditionally blessed) them with such wonderful blessings that we can't even comprehend just how wonderful they are (justification, sanctification, glorification—new body, adoption into the family of God, sharing Christ's glory, ruling and reigning with Christ for 1,000 years, being rewarded for what God inspired and enabled us to do etc).

You may notice that this is a big change from the first seven chapters of Romans—it's hard to feel good about yourself after reading them. However, this shining of the spotlight of God's moral law into our sinful hearts is necessary—without it we would never see our need for a Saviour and so ask for our sins to be forgiven, and we would never see ourselves as being weak to love and obey God and so ask for God's help. Remember, the good news only makes sense once we understand the bad news. It's always “law before grace”.

“Our weak hearts, prone to legalism and unbelief, receive these words with great difficulty: *God is for us* ... They have failed Him; but He is *for* them. They are ignorant; but He is *for* them. They have not yet brought forth much fruit; but He is *for* them.” (Newell)

v 31 **If God is for us, who can be against us?**: It can be said that “one person with God is an unconquerable majority”. No matter what or who comes against us, because God is for us, we can never be defeated. No person or circumstance is greater than God. Like the believer must reckon that their old man is dead (see Romans 6:11), so we must reckon “**If God is for us, who can be against us?**” to be true as well, otherwise we can easily fall into despair and give up.

“This verse literally reads, “*Since* God is for us, who can be against us?” We have the tendency to think God is disappointed with us. Not true. God is *for* you. And He’s for me. God views His people very highly and loves His people very deeply. Why? Because He already sees the end product. We’re already glorified in His eyes.” (Jon Courson)

A warning

“We certainly can be deceived into thinking that **God is for us** when He actually is not (as do cultists and those like them). Yet it cannot be denied that for those who are in Jesus Christ, God is **for** them!” (David Guzik)

2. The greatest evidence of the Father’s love for us—the gift of His Son Jesus

Romans 8:32 NKJV

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 [good] things?

Romans 8:32 NLT

Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won’t he also give us everything else [that is good for us]?

“Embedded in the phrase “all things” is the idea “all good things.” In other words, if it’s a good thing, He’ll give it to you because He already gave you the best in Christ Jesus.” (Jon Courson)

v 32 **He who did not spare His own Son**: Jesus is the ultimate, greatest, one of a kind, costliest, most precious, most valuable, most difficult to give (involving the greatest sacrifice) gift that could ever be given. If the Father didn’t hold back in giving us Who He loved the most, then we should never doubt that He will give us all other things (that are good for us). To doubt the Father’s love after His lavish demonstration of selfless giving is not just absurd, but also a spiteful slap in the face to Almighty God—it’s the ultimate in unbelief—after all, no greater demonstration of love is possible.

John 3:16 NKJV

For God [the Father] so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 5:8 NKJV

But God [the Father] **demonstrates** His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners**, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:10-11 NLT

For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son **while we were still his enemies**, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. ¹¹ So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

If the Father already gave His ultimate gift while we were His enemies, while we hated Him, how can we think that He won't give us the smaller gifts after we have willingly chosen to accept His invitation to become His Children, and are now a part of His family? How can we go on thinking that God is grumpy with us and so is going to be mean and hold good things back from us? It's like I unconditionally gift you with a million dollars when you ask for it while you are my enemy, but then you doubt that I will give you 5c when you ask me again for more money after we have become friends.

Application: What happens when I choose to love God like He loves me, when there is nothing that I will not spare (sacrifice) for Him?

“The word “spared” is used only one other place in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament. When Abraham took his son Isaac to Mount Moriah (today called Golgotha, or Calvary), God said to Abraham: “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, **since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.**” (Genesis 22:12). The word “withheld” is the same word translated “spared” here in Romans.

I suggest to you the reason God could pour out so many blessings on Abraham in so many ways was because Abraham was ready to sacrifice the one thing in his life that mattered most. In so doing, Abraham said, “I'll plunge a knife into my son's chest, even though I don't understand, because I love You, Father, more than I trust my ability to figure out what's going on.”

So, too, if the thing that means the most to you—be it your wife, kids, house, car, job, future—doesn't matter at all to you in comparison to your relationship with your Father, God can pour out all kinds of blessings on you because they won't be a distraction for you.” (Jon Courson)

3. God has justified us—believers are eternally declared to be “not guilty”

Romans 8:33 NKJV

Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Romans 3:33 NLT

Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself.

v 33 **Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?** Many will try, but they will fail. Satan accuses us, other people accuse us, and we can accuse our selves. Accusing and condemning us is one of Satan's most common, and unfortunately effective, ways of trying to discourage believers.

Revelation 12:10 NKJV

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren [satan], who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Satan will not be cast down to earth permanently until the midpoint of the Tribulation—this is the context of Revelation 12:10. So right now he is still actively accusing us. Until then, satan, as is described in Job 1:6-12, still has limited access to God, and like he did to Job, is still condemning and accusing us before God. Let's look at how satan accused Job.

Job 1:6-12 NKJV

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ And the Lord said to Satan, “From where do you come?”

So Satan answered the Lord and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.”

⁸ Then the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?”

⁹ So Satan answered the Lord and said, “Does Job fear God for nothing? ¹⁰ Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹ But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!”

¹² And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person.”

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

Satan does not have to accuse us himself, he also works through others and even our own thoughts to accuse us for the purpose of discouraging us and making us want to give up. But now, let's look at how Jesus deals with Satan's accusations.

Zechariah 3:1-5 AMP

Then [the guiding angel] showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at Joshua's right hand to be his adversary and to accuse him.

² And the Lord said to Satan, The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! Even the Lord, Who [now and habitually] chooses Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this [returned captive Joshua] a brand plucked out of the fire? [Jude 9]

³ Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments and was standing before the Angel [of the Lord].

⁴ And He spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. **And He [the Angel of the Lord (Jesus)] said to [Joshua], Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will clothe you with rich apparel.**

⁵ And I [Zechariah] said, Let them put a clean turban on his head. So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with [rich] garments. And the Angel of the Lord stood by.

Isaiah 61:10 NKJV

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with **the garments of salvation**, He has covered me with **the robe of righteousness**, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

What a wonderful picture! Our sin was like filthy clothes, but Jesus commands that the filthy clothes be removed and in their place we receive **the garments of salvation, the robe of righteousness**. The question we must ask ourselves now is, “How can Jesus do this?” The answer is given in 2 Corinthians 5:21 where we see that the perfect Jesus became the substitute sacrifice in place of sinful man. *This is how God could punish sin without punishing people.* The main point is that because Jesus became as guilty as we were, we can become as righteous as He is. Jesus took my sin and gave me His perfect and eternal righteousness in its place. Notice that our righteousness is **in Him**. Our new identity is that we are righteous **in Christ**—it is His righteousness, not ours.

2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV

For [God the Father] made [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that **we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

“This means that He has declared us righteous in Christ. Satan would like to accuse us (Zechariah 3:1–7; Revelation 12:10), but we stand righteous in Jesus Christ. We are God’s elect—chosen in Christ and accepted in Christ. God will certainly not accuse us since it is He who has justified us. For Him to accuse us would mean that His salvation was a failure and we are still in our sins.

Understanding the meaning of justification brings peace to our hearts. When God declares the believing sinner righteous in Christ, that declaration never changes. Our Christian experience changes from day to day, but justification never changes. We may accuse ourselves, and men may accuse us; but God will never take us to court and accuse us. Jesus has already paid the penalty and we are secure in Him.” (Warren W. Wiersbe)

“We are secure from every charge against us. If we are declared “not guilty” by the highest Judge, who can bring an additional charge?” (David Guzik)

Application: Why confess sin if we are already positionally righteous (justified)?

Jon Courson explains this well. “There is one who does indeed lay things to the charge of God’s elect. Satan, the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10), points his finger at us constantly.

As Joshua, the high priest, stood in the presence of the Lord, his garments became filthy (Zechariah 3:3), because in God’s presence, man’s spirituality always appears as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). Quick to exploit the situation, Satan pointed his finger at Joshua’s sin. “Is not this a stick I have plucked out of the fire?” said the Lord as Joshua’s garments became dazzling white.

The same is true of us. We were little sticks headed for the fire of damnation. But the Lord plucked us out, robed us in His righteousness, and gave us the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness (Isaiah 61:3).

“Look at his sin,” thunders Satan.

“What sin?” asks God. “All I see is My Son.”

There is no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus. Then what were we doing on our knees this morning, confessing sin? Confession is the result of conviction, not condemnation. Conviction is the work of the Spirit. When He convicts me of sin, I say, “Oh, Father, I realize this is wrong. I agree with You. And I thank You that I’m forgiven.” Conviction draws me to the Father. Condemnation, on the other hand, drives me from the Father. Condemnation makes me say, “I’m such a wretch. I can’t pray and I sure can’t go to church.”

When Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, God asked him a simple question. He didn’t say, “Where were you? How could you? Why did you?” No, He simply said, “Where are you?” (Genesis 3:9).

And that’s still the heart of the Father. His heart is not, “Where have you been?” or “What did you do? but “Where are you right now? Take off those scratchy fig leaves, and let Me clothe you with My righteousness.””

4. Christ intercedes for us—the believer has been lawyered up with an advocate (defense lawyer) Who cannot lose!

Romans 8:34 NKJV

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 8:34 NLT

Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honour at God's right hand, pleading for us.

v 34 **Who is he who condemns?** No one can, because as we have just seen, the believer has eternal righteousness in Christ, they are justified. *But how do we know that this is true?* This verse gives us the answer.

v 34 **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:** *We can be sure of our forgiveness because Jesus is also risen from the dead and then ascended to heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father (the place of highest honour and authority), interceding or advocating for us.* This is the only evidence we need, the absolute proof that God the Father accepted the once for all time sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross as payment for all the sins of all mankind.

Mark 16:19 NKJV

So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

1 John 2:1-2 AMP

My little children, I write you these things so that you may not violate God's law and sin. But if anyone should sin, we have an Advocate (One Who will intercede for us) with the Father—[it is] Jesus Christ [the all] righteous [upright, just, Who conforms to the Father's will in every purpose, thought, and action].

² And He [that same Jesus Himself] is the propitiation (the atoning sacrifice) for our sins, and not for ours alone but also for [the sins of] the whole world.

The fact that Jesus is sitting means that the work is finished; the price for our sins, our sin debt, is fully paid (see John 19:30). With this knowledge the believer can rest assured of their eternal salvation—*sin will never be able to separate them from God again!*—once saved, the believer is eternally in Christ Jesus, and will therefore be seen for the rest of eternity as being as righteous as Christ (the righteousness of God).

Hebrews 10:11-18 NLT

Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. ¹² But our High Priest [Jesus] offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then He **sat down** in the place of honour at God's right hand. ¹³ There He waits until His enemies are humbled and made a footstool under His feet. ¹⁴ **For by that one offering He forever made perfect those who are being made holy.**

¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also testifies that this is so. For he says, ¹⁶ **"This is the new covenant** I will make with My people on that day, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."

¹⁷ Then he says, **"I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds."**

¹⁸ **And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.**

5. Christ loves us—nothing is more powerful than His love and so nothing can separate us from His love

Romans 8:35-39 NKJV

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness [resulting from poverty], or peril, or sword [execution or martyrdom]? 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 NLT

Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ³⁶ (As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.”) ³⁷ No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

³⁸ And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. ³⁹ No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

v 35 **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? (NKJV), Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if... (NLT):** The context of the last half of Romans 8 is the Spirit filled life in times of suffering. Here, Paul shows us that *if we are waling in the Spirit, we will not doubt God’s love for us when we go through trials and suffering*. Paul is talking from experience: the only form of suffering that Paul had not yet experienced, but he would later, was that of the sword, when he was executed by the Romans (see 1 Corinthians 4:11, 15:30).

v 38 **For I am persuaded [I am convinced] 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.** Why did Paul experience all of these forms of suffering? So that he could learn, by experience, to never doubt that God loved him (**For I am persuaded**). Remember, “*we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.* (Romans 8:28 NKJV)

v 37 **More than conquerors through Him who loved us:** “How is the Christian *more* than a conqueror?

- He overcomes with a greater *power*, the power of Jesus
- He overcomes with a greater *motive*, the glory of Jesus
- He overcomes with a greater *victory*, losing nothing even in the battle
- He overcomes with a greater *love*, conquering enemies with love and converting persecutors with patience” (David Guzik)

v 39 **Nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord:** This is the believers eternal assurance; they will never be separated from God’s love. And why? It is just another blessing that we have been predestined to enjoy because we are **in Christ Jesus our Lord**—it’s all part of the believer’s identity in Christ—they are loved and accepted by God, and nothing can change that.