

## If God be For Us...

Romans 8: 31-39

For me, the eighth chapter of Romans is one of the most profound portions of Scripture recorded within the Bible. It has brought comfort and assurance to my heart many times down through the years.

We have considered our deliverance from condemnation through a relationship with Christ, obtained guidance for overcoming the flesh, rejoiced in our placement and future inheritance by being adopted into the family of God, realized that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, and considered our calling unto the Lord in salvation. Within the closing verses of this powerful discourse, Paul speaks of the assurance and security of the believer in Christ. Once we are delivered of condemnation and placed within the family of God, we are secure for all eternity. We will discover that nothing can separate us from the love of God or remove us from His care.

Let's take a few moments to consider the [certainties](#) believers enjoy as we think on the phrase: [If God be For Us...](#) Consider:

**I. The Believer's Abundance** (31-32) – This certainly isn't an exhaustive list of all we possess in Christ, but it does reveal the abundance we enjoy through Him. Notice:

**A. The Premise** (31) – [What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?](#) Paul has spoken at length of the substitutionary atonement Christ made on our behalf and the many benefits associated with a relationship with Christ. He then asks a question: [What shall we then say to these things?](#) How shall we respond to such provision and grace? He then poses another question with profound implication: [If God be for us, who can be against us?](#) He isn't necessarily seeking an answer to these questions, but rather is challenging the reader to consider the benefit and security of a relationship with Christ. We know that God is for us. He loved us so much that He sent His Son to die for our sin. He has promised a home in heaven throughout eternity for all the saved. Time will not permit to discuss the awesome power and sovereignty of God. If God is for us, it doesn't matter who or what is against us! We are secure in Him!

**B. The Payment** (32a) – [He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all.](#) Prior to writing these words, Paul had dealt extensively with the sinful nature of humanity, the separation it brings, and our inadequacy to be reconciled to God through our effort or merit. God is holy and demanded a righteous sacrifice be offered for our reconciliation. God alone possessed the

righteousness He required, so God would have to come in flesh in order to become the sacrifice worthy to atone for sin. God sent His Son, robed in flesh, to be delivered up for the sin of humanity. Jesus Christ, the eternal God-Man (wholly God and wholly man) bore our sin and the righteous judgment we deserved as He stood in our place, offering His body the sacrifice for sin.

**C. The Provision** (32b) – *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?* If God loved humanity, you and me, enough to allow His Son to die for our sin, He surely loves us enough to provide for us while in this life and throughout eternity. God has a plan and a purpose for our lives. He has invested too much in us to cast us aside and fail to provide for us along the way while securing our eternal future. There is nothing necessary in this life or the one to come that God will not provide for the believer.

- This provision must be considered within its context. We cannot expect God to offer things contrary to His nature or sovereign will. God will see to it that we have all we need to live a life that honors Christ and make it to the promised inheritance. If God be for us, who can be against us!

**II. The Believer's Acceptance** (33-34) – While we deal with the struggles of sin, living in a sin cursed world that does not embrace nor accept us, we can find comfort in our acceptance of the Lord. Consider:

**A. Our Righteousness** (33) – *Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.* Satan stands as the accuser of the brethren, seeking to discredit our relationship and worth before the Lord. The world may find little value in our faith, and even condemn our service unto the Lord, but God will have the final say. Those who are in Christ are justified of God. We have been declared righteous by God regardless of what this world says.

- There is no doubt we all were guilty of sin and worthy of condemnation. We had no hope within ourselves and no way to obtain the righteousness God demanded. However, in salvation our debt was paid in full, the charges against us were annulled, never to be remembered again. God has declared us righteous; therefore Satan and this world have no grounds to say otherwise.

**B. Our Redeemer** (34a) – *Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again...* This question relates to the previous one. Some seek to bring charges against us and others seek to condemn. While these accusations and actions hurt, we can take comfort that Christ alone has the power to condemn. The believer enjoys a benefit this world doesn't though. Christ died and rose again in order to purchase our redemption, providing for our salvation and

eternal life. The world may continue to condemn and accuse, but we are secure in Christ through our relationship with Him. We have already discovered there is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus. There is no need to worry about condemnation when one has been delivered in Christ. Charges may be brought, but the righteous Judge declares us justified. We are accepted of God through Christ the Son!

**C. The Representative** (34b) – *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.* Not only is there no need for fear of condemnation, but we also enjoy the benefit of Christ our Lord making intercession for us at the right hand of God the Father. He ascended back to heaven after the resurrection, but Christ is not idle. He is actively engaged in the lives of those who belong to Him. He stands as our representative, our advocate before the Father. When the accuser brings accusation before the throne, Jesus stands as our defense attorney, interceding and pleading our case. When the accusations arise, Jesus declares our sin debt has already been paid in full. Being cleansed by His atoning blood, the charges are dismissed in light of the righteousness of Christ. We are never without representation before God the Father. Jesus is our continual, eternal advocate, pleading our case. *Heb.7:25 – 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.*

**III. The Believer's Assurance** (35-39) – In our closing verses, Paul deals with the assurance and security of the believer. Regardless of what we face, we are secure in Christ the Lord. We will discover that nothing, absolutely nothing, can separate us from the love of Christ. Consider:

**A. The Reality of Difficulty** (35-36) – *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 thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.* These struggles and difficulties were a definite reality for the believer in Paul's day. Many were persecuted for their faith and suffered because of their relationship with Christ. Paul never promised our lives would be void of difficulty or adversity just because we belong to Christ. Some tend to believe or teach God has forsaken those who endure hardship and difficulty. These struggles are part of life. Our relationship with Christ doesn't shield us from adversity.

- However, we are assured that no difficulty or hardship will separate us from the love of Christ. We may face adversity and pain at the hands of others, but we will never be forsaken of Christ. His love was proven on Calvary and it will remain steadfast for eternity! We have the assurance that His love will remain when all else is gone. If no one else cares, Jesus does.

**B. The Certainty of Victory (37-39)** – <sup>[37]</sup> [Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.](#) Troubles will come, but we can rest assured that we are more than conquerors through Christ our Lord. Notice:

➤ **The Persuasion (38)** – [For I am persuaded.](#) Paul goes on to list a number of things that have the appearance of being able to separate us from the love of Christ. He had endured much for the Lord and he was persuaded, fully convinced, that nothing could separate him from Christ. His confidence afforded great courage and comfort when facing trials. We need to share his persuasion concerning the love of Christ for us and His ability to keep us.

➤ **The Permanence (38)** – [For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life,...nor things present, nor things to come...](#) Paul knew he belonged to the Lord in life and He would remain in Him through death. Christ loved him now and that love would remain after his decease. There was nothing he faced at the current moment or anything yet to come in the future that could separate him from the love of Christ. The love of Christ is a permanent reality for the believer.

➤ **The Powers (38)** – [For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers...](#) There are many forces of evil and powers of darkness at work within the spiritual realm. Paul knew he faced an adversary that often was not seen or experienced in a physical state. Even the powers of evil could not separate him from the love of Christ. Satan could bring every minion he has, with every trick in his diabolical book against Paul, and he would remain secure in the love of Christ. The adversary has not changed. He remains a determined and powerful foe, but we need not fear. All the forces of Satan and hell itself cannot separate us from the love of our Lord and Savior!

➤ **The Places (39)** – Paul also knew that [height nor depth](#) could separate him from the love of God, which in Christ Jesus our Lord. There is no place we could find ourselves upon this earth that can separate us from the love of Christ, jeopardizing our salvation. Christ conquered death and hell as He rose from the grave and He ascended to the heights of heaven. He is Lord of all and we are secure in Him!

➤ **The Perimeter (39)** – [nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.](#) If there remained any doubt, Paul declares that no other creature is able to separate us from the love of Christ. All that we see and know, and even things unseen, were created of God. The creature is subject to the Creator. As long as we are in the hand of the

mighty God, we are secure. In essence, there is absolutely nothing that can separate us from the love of Christ and remove our salvation in Him. He purchased our redemption through His shed blood and we remain in His care and provision. If God be for us, who can be against us!

**Conclusion:** I don't know how you feel, but I am thankful for my position in Christ. I did not get here through my own works or merit, but by His good grace and loving favor. I have been placed within the body of Christ, surrounded and secured in His great love. I rest in the finished work of Christ my Lord. We can be assured of our eternal salvation through Christ. Nothing can separate us from His great love.

Have you experienced this great love? Have you been saved by the grace of God? Jesus died for your sin the same as He did for everyone else's. He wants you to enjoy the peace and security that is found in His great love through salvation. Look to Him by faith and respond in salvation.