

## **Pt 29 Romans 8:31-39, God Is For Us!**

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### **Romans 8:31-39**

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

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?

33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.

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.

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 thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that 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 creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We pick back up in our text this morning by finishing out Chapter 8. Last week we looked at verse 30 and we talked about God's **calling, justification, and glorification**. This morning we want to look at these 9 verses which speaks of God's great love for us. I've titled the message this morning: "**God Is For Us!**"

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

Here in the beginning of verse 31 we see that first part of the verse which says: "**What shall we then say to these things?**" What things? The things we have just been studying about over the past few weeks. Do you remember what they were?

1. There is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.
2. That the Spirit of God dwells within the believer.
3. That we are Children of God and joint-heirs with Christ.
4. That the Spirit makes intercession for us.
5. That God works all things together for our good.
6. That he had foreknowledge of us before the foundation of the earth.
7. That he predestined us to be conformed to the image of his son.
8. That he called us.
9. That he justified us.
10. That he sanctifies us.
11. And, he will glorify us.

**What shall we then say to these things?** What can conclusions can we draw from this? He answers it in the next part of the verse: **If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?**

That little word "**if**" sometimes is used to ask a question that is unknown; however, here it is used as a statement you could use the word "**since**" in its place and say: "**Since God is for us, who can be against us?**"

There is no question whether God is for us, He IS for us. Aren't you glad that God is FOR us? We could stop right here and shout and praise God that He is for us! **The opposite of being for someone is to be against someone.** To be against someone means you are their enemy. We talked about that last time and the fact that before we were saved we were enemies with God but after we were saved he justified us and we are no longer his enemies.

**WORLD:** Listen, the whole world can be against you and you'll be alright but if God is against you then you don't have a chance. You better believe that the world is against you and hates you. The world would like nothing better than to see Christians destroyed. The Psalmist said this in **Psalms 118:6-7** *The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? 7 The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me.*

The Psalmist also writes this in **Psalms 56:9** *When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me.*

**SATAN:** Not only is the world against us, the devil is against us, he hates us. He wants to destroy us. If you are saved today the devil cannot destroy you and he knows it but he's going to do everything in his power to try and ruin you and make you stumble and fall. Jesus told Peter that he was praising for him because Satan desired him that he may sift him as wheat.

Peter learned a hard lesson in his life and later on would write the following warning in his Epistle: **1 Peter 5:8** *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

But praise God He is for us! He is our friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

**OURSELVES:** Someone else besides the world and Satan is against us too. It might be someone you didn't think about and that someone is YOU. We can be our own worst enemies sometimes.

We allow ourselves to be deceived. We give in to the pleasures of sin. We willfully disobey God. **Jeremiah 17:9** *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

James warns Christians of this as well: **James 1:22** *But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*

It's one thing to deceive others but when you deceive yourself it is really bad. Self-deception leads to some of the worst downfalls of all.

But, despite our deceitful and wicked hearts, even WE cannot separate ourselves from God's love. That's how much He loves us, which is what Paul is talking about in our next verse.

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?**

Paul is making the case for eternal security of the believer. If God would go as far as giving up his Only Begotten Son for us, then how in the world would he ever let anything or anyone separate us from Him? And, why would He not give us all things? This "**all things**," Paul is talking about is not all of our wishes and dreams. It's not meaning money, houses, cars, health, wealth, and prosperity. He is talking about all those things that has been promised to those who believe on him; justification, sanctification, glorification, eternal life – these are all Spiritual things.

I'm afraid too many times when we read the Bible we allow our flesh to guide us instead of the Spirit. That is why there are so many false religions out there and false teaching. They approach Scripture from a fleshly, physical standpoint instead of a Spiritual standpoint. So you have the Televangelist getting on TV and telling everyone that God wants to make them rich. All they have to do is send a donation and plant a seed and God will give the increase. That is heretical teaching.

Christians are to see things with Spiritual eyes. Turn over to **1 Corinthians 2:6-16**

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

10 But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

These **“deep things of God”** are Spiritual things and we must see them through Spiritual eyes.

Now look at the next 3-verses of our text:

33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.

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.

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

Paul gives off a list of three **“Who’s”** and asks:

- Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect?
- Who *is* he that condemneth?
- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Notice in verse 33 he mentions **“God's elect.”** Don't let that word elect scare you. A lot of people are confused about it. Some think it only means the Jewish race and while that may be true in the Old Testament, it doesn't mean that in the New Testament. In the New Testament it is applied to ALL Christians.

The word **“elect”** simply means **“chosen or selected.”** God's elect are those that he mentioned in verses 28-30: **Romans 8:28-30** *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are **the called** according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did **foreknow**, he also did **predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also **called**: and whom he called, them he **also justified**: and whom he justified, them he also **glorified**.*

These are all those who are truly saved. If you are saved today, you are one of the elect and God justified you. Ain't nobody or nothing that can undo that. Not even that

whole list of 7-things in **Verse 35**: tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword

Then Paul makes a direct quote from the Book of Psalms: **36** *As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Psalms 44:22* Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.

This is to show that; yes, God's people may have to go through trials and tribulations. They may have to be led to the slaughter like sheep.

That is why Peter says in **1 Peter 4:12-14** *Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. 14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.*

God never said that our way would be easy but he did say he would not leave us nor forsake us. That is why Paul continues in our next verses with:

**37** *Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that 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 creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

None of these things can separate us from the love of God. None of these things can hinder our future Glory. None of these things can come between us an eternal life, because God loves us.

Remember what we studied about God's love back in Chapter 5:

**Romans 5:5-11**

**5** *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

**6** *For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.*

**7** *For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.*

**8** *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

**9** *Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*

**10** *For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

**11** *And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

Do you really think for one minute that God would allow anything to alter His plan for us? He didn't give His Son for nothing.

God is a good God. Always has been and always will be and He will accomplish that which He pleases.

I like what it says in **Jeremiah 29:11** *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.*

In conclusion, what more can be said – God Is For Us!