

GOD WANTS A RELATIONSHIP

Not a Performance

Romans 5, 6, 7 & 8

**“Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son...
an heir through God” (Galatians 4:7)**

Study Number Twelve – Victory in the Relationship – Romans 8:31-39

The apostle comes to this magnificent benediction at the conclusion of all of these theological studies that we've been through and he just wants to point up the fact that the relationship is so beautiful and so perfect that there is nothing that can separate us from Him.

We looked in Romans chapter 5 at the results of this relationship. We looked at the how of it in that we were born in Adam and we've been born again by the Spirit of God into Jesus Christ into a perfect, permanent relationship that cannot be severed.

When we got into Romans chapter 6, the apostle taught us that we've been brought into living union with Christ like a branch and a vine. We draw our lives from Him and as a result we have a new attitude toward sin.

When we got into chapter 7, we looked at the relationship to the Law, realizing that in the relationship we're loved unconditionally. We've been freed from the Law. We've been brought into a dynamic, new, living relationship with a Christ who loves us unconditionally.

But with the problem of sin, in Romans chapter 8, we discovered that we have the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit who energizes the new divine nature so our lives become more and more like Jesus Christ.

Then we talked a little bit in Romans chapter 8 about this matter of suffering and how it relates to the relationship and how God uses suffering to conform us more to the image of His dear Son.

And now the apostle just sort of breaks forth in a benediction and a praise here. After our last study, we noted that God is working all things together in our lives for good, even in the context of human suffering or whatever it is, God is the one who is at work behind all those things.

He's the one who not only had foreknowledge that we were going to receive Him, but He predetermined that choice. He's the one who called by His Spirit and we answered, and we were made righteous. And from God's point of view, we've already been glorified. He sees us as we're already finished in Jesus Christ.

And when we deal with great truths like that, we come to this

final hymn of praise and we just want to get into the heavens and sing the praises of God with the apostle!

Let's pick up at verse 31 and let's just notice together these last verses of Romans 8.

v. 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who could be against us?

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

Now here in this thirty-first verse we have two questions:

1. “What then shall we say to these things?”

What he's referring to is these great acts of God in the previous verses. The fact that God loved us so much that He chose us, that He called us and that He's made us righteous in Himself, and that He's working all things together for good. What are we going to say to these things?

And then the next question:

2. “If God is for us, who could be against us?”

He's sovereign. He's the ruler over all. He's the one who's for us and because He is for us in this permanent relationship, the one who foreknew us, “who could be against us?”

Now it's natural sometimes we look at it from a human perspective and we say there are lots of things against us. The world seems to be against us as believers. Jesus talked about that. The old nature within us seems to be against us every time we endeavor to allow the Spirit to have victory in our life it seems like we get defeated.

And the old evil one's always against us. All those things put together we have defeated foes and if God be for us, since He is for us, who could ever be against us?

What kind of an answer can we give to questions like that? Well, he gives FIVE GREAT AFFIRMATIONS like that and then he gives FIVE QUESTIONS.

And as we look down through these verses, here are the FIVE QUESTIONS that he's going to ask to bring out the truth of the morning.

1. verse 31—"If God is for us, who is against us?"
2. verse 32—"He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, will He not also give us all things with Him?"
3. verse 33—"Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?"
4. verse 34—"Who is to condemn?" and
5. verse 35—"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?"

What the apostle is doing is changing to the little word “WE” here now. He’s applying the great truths of what he’s been teaching us that when we came to Christ and we were brought into this family as sons and daughters, it’s a permanent relationship. It is God making an eternal commitment to us, that our eternal destiny is secure. As secure as He is. Because when He starts something, He finishes it. And human effort and human performance and human merit has nothing to do with this great act of God that we’ve been studying in these chapters.

It’s awfully easy to get our focus off a God who wants to justify us and make us righteous and on our human performance and we sit around with a lack of assurance. We sit around in fear wondering if we die if we’re going to go to heaven because whether we’ve done enough good works or not. And that’s the whole purpose of these chapters. Paul wants to focus on the fact that salvation is an act of God whereby He declares a sinner righteous. He makes us sons and daughters in His family in a permanent relationship. God would be praised and blessed this day if we could just thank Him for the fact that we are secure and that we can talk even in the hours of physical demise, recognizing the fact that all that is necessary in this last chapter of life is to be sure we bring praise and glory to God while we’re going through it. And to rest in the confidence that the promises of God are true and that we’re stepping out of here and we’re going there. That’s the way to run a good race and to finish a course.

We can bring into the world and we can bring a thousand foes, we can bring unnumbered ills, but God is greater and mightier and He's on our side. And this is a permanent thing.

v. 32 Indeed, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?

“Indeed, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?”

“He did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all,”

There's the GOSPEL.

Jesus Christ, though He was rich, yet for our sake became poor that we through His poverty might be made rich.

“Jesus Christ hath borne my griefs and carried my sorrows. I did esteem Him, stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. He was wounded for my transgressions. He was bruised for my iniquity. The chastisement of my peace was upon Him.” (ref. Isaiah 53:4, 5)

Paul, trying to expound this great truth in 2 Corinthians 5 says: “He was made sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ.” (ref. 2 Corinthians 5:21)

God didn't spare His Son, that which was absolutely necessary in order for us to have salvation to be made His child. And so, he raises the next obvious question. He asks, "how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"

If God has done the greatest, it will assure us that He's going to do the lesser. If God has already gone to the expense of giving His Son, His only begotten Son, because of His love for us—sinful men and women in a world destined for doom—if He'd do that the writer is saying it obligates Him to do the lesser because God has never left a work incomplete.

Now if God could do that and we focus on the Cross of Christ and we're amazed we get to do it here at the table today. And we say, "God You love me so much You did that!" Can we not see in the argument he says, the lesser, how will He not freely with Him give us all things?

Matthew 6:33 says that: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

What God has done seals what He will do. Since He's already accomplished the greater, the lesser comes along with what has already been accomplished in the death of His Son.

The story is told of a Scotsman who arrived in Liverpool and he was heading toward the United States of America and he had just very little money. He had enough to purchase the

ticket but he did not have enough to buy meals onboard the ship. He knew he needed some money when he got to America to get started and get settled. And he was being very frugal so he went to the little 7-11 store in Liverpool and he got himself some crackers and some cheese and he thought he would use that to take care of his hunger pains during this long trip to the United States. Well, when he got onboard the ship he'd had his crackers and his cheese but they started to turn stale. And when you mix it with the salt air they get mushy and it's a mess. One day he was sitting out onboard the ship and one of the stewards passed by and in the midst of his deep, deep hunger he got a whiff of that terrific food. And he thought to himself, "Oh if I could just spare a few shillings for one of those meals." And when the steward came back by again he said, "Sir, how much would it cost for a meal like that?" And the steward said, "Sir, do you have a ticket?" He said, "Yes sir." He said, "Well, I need to tell you that then that all of your meals were provided with the ticket."
(source unknown)

He'd been starving himself on cheese and crackers when with the price of his ticket he had all that he needed. And we have Christians living in abject poverty and fear, afraid to die because they're fearful of the fact that they don't know what's out there and beyond.

In Jesus Christ we have the full fare! He not only picked up where we were and forgave us our sins and cleansed us eternally, but that same relationship also provides for our eternal destiny.

How can He who has not only spared His own Son, gave His own Son, give us all things?

v. 33 Who will bring a charge against God's chosen out ones? God is the one who justifies;

“Who will bring a charge against God's chosen out ones? God is the one who justifies;”

Who can bring a charge against somebody that God justifies?

He's telling us as he reaches the finality of his great doxology here that when God does something, He does it real good. When He forgives us of our sin, He forgives it. He wipes the slate completely clean.

One of the most beautiful Greek words is in Colossians chapter 1. It says there that He has forgiven our sins. And that word could be used in the Greek language of stamping a “Paid in Full” on our record.

That's not very much comfort because we can read our record under the “paid in full,” even though the thing's paid in full from God's point of view. We don't like to think about facing our record. But the word that he uses for forgiveness is a word of taking a wet cloth and wiping the slate completely clean as though it had never been. That's justification.

When we come to God in Jesus Christ and receive Him, He

forgives our sin and wipes the slate completely clean. God is the judge. He's the sovereign of the universe. If there were a case against us, it's going to be taken to God. He's the one who's already justified us and wiped the slate clean.

We ought to marvel in that act of grace that's provided the relationship. That's what he meant in Isaiah when he said:

Isaiah 1:18

Come now, let us reason together saith the Lord. Though your sins be as scarlet, they'll be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

One English writer, a poet, put it this way:

A sovereign protector I have
Unseen, yet forever at hand
Unchangeably faithful to save,
Almighty to rule and command.
He smiles and my comforts abound,
His grace as the dew shall descend.
And walls of salvation surround,
The soul He has delighted to defend.
(source unknown)

We are defended by His grace! The debt against us has been completely paid! The slate has been wiped clean by His death upon the Cross.

v. 34 Who is the one who is condemning? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who has been raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also is interceding for us.

“Who is the one who is condemning? Christ is He who died, yes, rather who has been raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also is interceding for us.”

Now the first thing he asked there in that 34th verse is: “Who is the one who is condemning?”

Who can condemn?

Well, we say the Law can. That’s right. The Law only condemns. But remember, the Law brought us to Christ. The Law brought us to our answer in the Lord Jesus and it’s already gone. It’s been dealt with.

And by the condemnation that the Law aroused within our breast, the Lord Jesus paid for by His substitutionary death upon the Cross. That’s the first thing he says. Christ, first of all, “is He who died.” He paid that debt by His death.

The Bible says, “the wages of sin is death.” (ref. Romans 6:23)

Those wages are paid for fully by Christ’s death.

Then it goes onto the next thing and it says that He not only died, but He was “raised” from the dead.

Now what is the significance of the resurrection in relation to God's Word? If God the Father was not satisfied with the death of Jesus Christ, He'd have left Him in the grave. But because the Father was fully satisfied with what Jesus did, the Father put His seal of approval by raising Him from the dead and saying to the world the living Christ has accomplished eternal life for fallen man.

And so, who can condemn? The Son paid the price. The Father raised Him from the grave. And where is Christ right now? He's sitting at the right hand of the Father.

Hebrews 7 says: "wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to intercede for us." (ref. Hebrews 7:25)

He's there at the right hand of the Father protecting His interest in you and in me, interceding on our behalf. He protects His property. He's a living Savior!

Then it says: "who also is interceding for us."

There as condemnation and criticism comes by the evil one, Jesus Christ can intercede on our behalf as sinful man and say "I paid for that already. That's already taken care of in My death upon the Cross."

Verse 35—this is really going to get fantastic as we wrap this up here.

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

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”

Now we come right down to it. Is there anything that can separate us from the love of Christ once we come into this relationship that we’ve been talking about in Romans 5, 6, 7 and 8?

Is there any way that we can be separated from the love of Christ?

“Shall tribulation or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?”

Now he’s listed seven things there. He’s saying, first of all, tribulation. Is there any tribulations that come into our life that are going to separate us from the Lord? No circumstances.

Distresses or trials or difficulties? Are any of those going to separate us? No. Any persecution? Anybody just really picking on us? Any opposition we’re getting going to separate us? No.

Well, what if we had to go without food? We were in a famine, we couldn’t have anything to eat. Would that separate us? No. How about nakedness? We don’t have any clothes to wear.

Does that separate us? No.

How about danger or peril? Put into rough circumstances where it seemed like everything was out of control, huh? No. Well about the sword? What if we had to face a martyr's death, would that separate us? Sorry it wouldn't.

Chrysostom, that great early century Christian, as he stood before the Roman emperor who was getting ready to provide a martyr's death for him, gave one of his final testimonies to the emperor. It was beautiful. He just described these verses here so great.

The emperor was threatening him with banishment and these are the words that he returned to as a Christian. He said, "Thou canst not banish me for this world is my Father's house."

"But I will slay thee," said the emperor. "Nay, thou canst not," said the noble champion of the faith. "For my life is hidden with Christ in God."

"I will take away your treasures."

"Nay you cannot. For my treasure is in heaven and my heart is there too."

"But I will drive you away from all men and you shall not have any friends left."

“Nay, you cannot for I have a friend in heaven from whom I cannot be separated. I defy thee for there is nothing that you can do to hurt me.”

(source unknown)

And the apostle is simply saying that once we come into this relationship with grace, there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon, that great old eighteenth century preacher was one day walking with a friend out on a ranch and up on top of the barn he saw a weather vane. And on the weather vane it said, “God is love.” Spurgeon was repulsed by that as he took a look at the weather vane.

He said, “That’s terrible. A thing so changeable as a weather vane having God is love inscribed on it. That just is not consistent.” The other gentleman poked him and said, “Spurgeon you’ve just got it all wrong. That guy meant to tell you that God is love no matter which way the wind blows.” And that’s the way it is in our lives and our relationship with Him.

(source unknown)

The world can provide all basis of persecution, affliction and even drive us to the grave but none of that will bring us to a point where we are separated from the love of God in Christ Jesus!

A lot of people think when afflictions come into their lives it

proves that God no longer loves them. That's not true. Affliction comes into our life to prove that God does love us and He's making us more like His Son in the process when we're relating rightly to those circumstances that come our way.

Mark chapter 4, as the disciples are there in the storm and as they're facing the circumstance that seems so overwhelming to them, they say: "Don't you care that we perish while you lie there asleep?" (ref. Mark 4:38)

But the Lord had some lessons of faith that He wanted to teach them right at that particular point. And at the given signal He said "peace be still" and the winds and the waves obeyed His voice. (ref. Mark 4:39)

God will always sovereignly intervene in the midst of our affliction after He's taught us the lesson. That's why when we're having a rough time it's good to get close and tell the Father that we're fully cooperating with what He's trying to teach us so we get rid of it. We get over that. We get onto something else. God is using these things in our lives for His glory.

v. 36 Even as it stands written, "For your sake we are being put to death all the day long. We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

"Even as it stands written, 'For your sake we are being put to death all the day long. We were considered as sheep to be

slaughtered.”

We look at that and we realize that the seven things mentioned in verse 35 are part of the “all things” that God is working together for good in our lives, and then we read the thirty-sixth verse and it says like sheep being led to the slaughter. How can a sheep being led to the slaughter be victorious? In the same way that Jesus Christ could be led to the Cross and cry in the moment of His death, “Tetelestai! It is finished!” He has won the victory.

From a human perspective a lot of times we’re very limited. The apostle can say:

“we have this treasure in earthen vessels, but the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not of ourselves. We are afflicted in every way; we’re not crushed, we’re perplexed, but we’re not despairing. We’re persecuted, but not forsaken; we’re struck down, but we’re not destroyed. Always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be manifested in our body. For we who are living are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life also of Jesus might be manifested in our mortal flesh.” (ref. 2 Corinthians 4:7-11)

v. 37 But in all things we are winning a most glorious victory through the one who loved us.

“But in all things we are winning a most glorious victory through the one who loved us.”

That little phrase “in all things” takes us right back to verse 28. God is working all things—“in all things we are winning a most glorious victory.” Even if it means death like Christ upon the cross, we can cry that word of victory.

We are more than conquerors
through Him that loves us so
The Christ that dwells within us
is the greatest power we know
He will fight beside us,
though the enemy is great
Who can stand against us,
He’s the captain of our fate.
(source unknown)

He can identify with the victory of Jesus Christ.

And with 2 Corinthians 2:14 we can say: “Now thanks be unto God who is always leading us in triumph.”

We are so identified with a living Christ that by His death upon that Cross, we can say and taste the victory, “We have won!” We’ve won a most overwhelming victory over sin and death by our identification with the Lord Jesus Christ and the victory that He has provided for us.

Notice it’s a victory “in all things” and not out of all things. He does not give us the victory by taking us out of circumstances, He gives us victory while we’re in the circumstances because

there we're learning the Christlikeness that He wants to teach us.

Now finally we sing the doxology.

**v. 38 For I stand convinced that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor principalities, nor things present
nor things about to come, nor powers,**

“For I stand convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor things present nor things about to come, nor powers,”

**v. 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.**

“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.”

We almost feel like when we read that tremendous benediction that we're singing the final phrases of *Handel's Messiah* as he comes forth with the Hallelujah chorus, of the fact that there is nothing that's going to separate us.

There are ten things that he mentions there. Let's take a brief moment to weave the pattern of this so we can get the impact of this concluding word that he has to say.

1. I'm persuaded that "neither death"—death's not going to separate us.

The apostle says that death is just the consummation of a relationship. We've been separated by the fact that He's there and we're here. And death only puts us together.

We know in part. We're down here and we see darkly but then we're going to know even as we're known, we're going to meet Him face to face.

He has destroyed the power of death.

2. What is this word about "life"?

How does life separate us from Him? Why did he put that in there? Sometimes life is more difficult than death. Life filled with its temptations, its failures, its disappointments, its uncertainties, its suffering. Sometimes it's harder to live than it is to die.

And the apostle says that even life and all of its exuding circumstances can't separate us from Him.

3. "angels"—here he's referring to the fallen angelic realm that fell with the anointed cherubim. In Isaiah 14, even Satan himself and his vast hosts, they by their activity cannot affect the relationship and cause it to terminate or to be broken or severed.

4. “principalities”—evidently the angelic realm is well, well organized in its onslaughts that are against us.
5. And he says “angels,” “principalities,” and “powers” revealing to this vast unseen angelic host that is against us and our relationship with Christ.
6. And then he says, “things which are present.” That means present circumstances.
7. “things to come”—that refers to the future.
8. And then he says “height”—that’s like he goes into outer space and he says as far as we want to go, there’s nothing up there that’s going to separate us.
9. Then he says “depth”—we just go as low as we want to go and there’s nothing going to separate us.
10. Or “any other created thing, will be able to separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.”

Now as we meditate on those 10 things for just a minute, note that the Lord was dealing with four definite spheres of things that we get concerned about.

1. First, He’s dealing with the sphere of **EXISTENCE**—life and death. We think that could separate us.
2. Then He deals with the sphere of **CREATED THINGS**—

angels, principalities and powers.

3. Then He deals with the sphere of TIME—because the things which are present. Or a lot of people are so frightened about what might come.

“You know it’s been bad to this point but it could get a whole lot worse.” “What if?” We hear so many people say, “What if?” And then that would do it.

We can ask, “Well, what if it did? You’d be the first one.”

God has always been faithful to carry us on through. He doesn’t mean for us to fight tomorrow’s battles before we get there. Live every day as unto itself and for His glory.

4. And then the sphere of SPACE—the height or the depth.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

When we realize that God has entered into a permanent relationship with us in His Son Jesus and there is nothing that will separate us from that love of God in Christ Jesus.

Unworthy, condemned sinners that we are, Christ died on that Cross to provide a permanent, beautiful relationship.

Dr. Donald Barnhouse told of a dear little French girl that lived with him in the United States for some time and when she went back to France she took with her one of the habit

patterns of the household. And that was that they made themselves a little promise box. A promise box is where you just put a bunch of little verses on cards and stick them in a box. And maybe there are 200, 300 or 400 cards in there. And whenever you just kind of feeling low you just stop by the promise box and you pull out one and read it and the Lord uses that to minister to your particular need. It's really neat how God can sometimes just take a very key verse of scripture and just minister to you just like that. Well, when she went back to France, she took her Bible and she made a promise box and put all these verses in there. She had about 300 or 400 verses in her box. And she eventually married a pastor in France and they began to have a family and she started this same little pattern of taking the verses out of the promise box and calling and claiming them.

Well, the war came and France was severely hurt during the time of the war. In fact, they were in great poverty. Her children were so emaciated, they were crying for peelings from the restaurant from the potatoes in order to be sustained. And they were brought to a point of destitution where their shoes were worn out and their clothes were ragged. She was so hurt and so painfully aware of what it was to be in the midst of something like this where she could do nothing about it. One day she came to the promise box and her eyes were just blurred with tears and she says, "Oh God, have You got a promise for me today?"

And with her blurred eyes she reached up with hands and hit the promise box and the whole thing just came flooding down

into her lap and the promises fell all around her and all over. And in a moment of supreme joy, she could realize that God the Father was looking on. And in the midst of these circumstances that were completely out of the control, there were the promises of God. They were all for her to claim in that particular situation.

(source unknown)

We're going to conclude our study with a hymn. The words are very meaningful.

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You who onto Jesus for refuge have fled?

“Fear not,” I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.”

“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of grief shall not thee overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.”

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I cannot desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake!”
(source unknown)

Perhaps we’ve had a lot of preconceived notions and ideas about a walk with God. We are living in our guilt in this hour because we’re fearful of what might happen if we met our demise on this day. All can be solved in a moment of exercising faith and allowing Jesus Christ to come into our life.

We have these lessons that come from our passage of scripture:

Lesson #1: God is for us and working all things together for good.

Lesson #2: The world, the flesh, and the devil may set themselves in array against us but they are no match for God who is on our side.

Lesson #3: Bring in all the world, a thousand foes, unnumbered ills. God is greater and the victory is ours.

Lesson #4: What God has already done seals what He will still do.

Lesson #5: No one can bring a charge when God clears the slate.

Lesson #6: Christ's love, His power, His death, His resurrection, His intercession and our union with Him delivers us from any possibility of condemnation.

Lesson #7: The seven things that are mentioned in verse 35 are part of the "all things" which God uses to work together for our good to produce Christlikeness in us.

Lesson #8: We can shout "we won" over the victory that was accomplished by Calvary and the empty tomb over 2000 years ago.

Lesson #9: Paul lists 10 things in verses 38 & 39 that shall not be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lesson #10: This list covers everything from every direction and every experience of life that can happen in this world to a Christian.

Lesson #11: Join me in singing the Doxology: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above Ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost." Amen.

Many are dear believers. We've studied and prayed together over many sections of the Word of God. Oh, how we pray that

springing into each heart will be words of prayer and adoration and thanksgiving for a God who starts something He means to complete, and that our relationship is permanent and eternally secure in Jesus Christ.

Our heavenly Father, we thank You for these words in Romans 8. Thank You for the sweet encouragement they become to us as we walk through the valley of the shadow. How when we face circumstances that seem so terribly out of control and inconsistent with Your love toward us, that we would hold our judgment and rest in Your marvelous goodness and grace to order all things well in our lives. So with a proper response we discover Your grace sufficient, no matter what the new demand might be. Provide these things as You have promised in Your Word for each one of these who hear this hour. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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NOTES

v. 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.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Romans 8:31-39 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the significance of the statement in verse 31, “If God is for us, who could be against us?”

3. How do we know that God will graciously give us all things, according to verse 32?

4. What has Christ done for us, according to verse 34?

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5. Through whom are we winning the victory, according to verse 37?

6. List the ten things in verses 38 & 39 that Paul gives as things that cannot separate us from the love of God.

7. What do you think Paul means by “height nor depth” in verse 39?

8. Where does the love of God for us reside, according to verse 39?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

- LESSON #1: God is for us and working all things together for good.
- LESSON #2: The world, the flesh, and the devil may set themselves in array against us but they are no match for God who is on our side.
- LESSON #3: Bring in all the world, a thousand foes, unnumbered ills. God is greater and the victory is ours.
- LESSON #4: What God has already done seals what He will still do.
- LESSON #5: No one can bring a charge when God clears the slate.

LESSON #6: Christ's love, His power, His death, His resurrection, His intercession and our union with Him delivers us from any possibility of condemnation.

LESSON #7: The seven things that are mentioned in verse 35 are part of the "all things" which God uses to work together for our good to produce Christlikeness in us.

LESSON #8: We can shout "we won" over the victory that was accomplished by Calvary and the empty tomb over 2000 years ago.

LESSON #9: Paul lists 10 things in verses 38 & 39 that shall not be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LESSON #10: This list covers everything from every direction and every experience of life that can happen in this world to a Christian.

LESSON #11: Join me in singing the Doxology: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above Ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost." Amen.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
