

Romans 8:35-39

Inseparable from God's Love

1. 8:35 – The Love of Christ

- a. *"shall separate us"* – Speaks to standing in unity, communion, fellowship with Christ.
 - i. In contrast a covenant standing can be revoked – Heb 6:4-8, 10:26-29
- b. *"love of Christ"* not our love for him, but his love – 2 Cor 5:14, Gal 2:20
 - i. Love on display by his death, resurrection, dispensation of grace – ch. 5-8
 - ii. The love of Christ is found in his grace freely given, freely received.
 - iii. There is a victory found in the abundant love of Christ (grace) - Rom 5:21
- c. *"Tribulation, distress..."* – Love naturally looks like peace, blessing, provision, safety.
- d. Trouble, poverty, danger could belie love, but not now with what we know - 2Cor 11:23

2. 8:36-37 – More than Conquerors

- a. Sheep lay down, get lost, bleat for their shepherd to intervene. They do not conquer.
- b. Psa 44 (13-17-22) is faithful Israel being destroyed, while God is silent.
 - i. They were shamed by claiming God's defense while being defeated.
 - ii. They need God's help, but where is he? – Psalm 44:23
- c. Psa 44:22 says "Yea", but Paul says, "Nay", the Psalm does not describe us!
- d. Not having a Shepherd's physical deliverance makes some feel like sheep.
 - i. But we are not sheep, we have strength in weakness due to the grace of Christ.
 - ii. Instead of us dying for the Lord's sake, the Lord died for our sake = conqueror!
- e. *"more than conquerors"* – because of the love of Christ we now know (by grace)
 - i. We are complete in Christ, freely access all spiritual blessings, delivered from condemnation, justified, glorified.

3. 8:38-39 - Inseparable

- a. *"I am persuaded"* – He conquers by his conviction (faith) – Col 2:2, Rom 4:21, 2Tim 1:12
- b. If you are not persuaded, faith is weak, you will *feel* separated from the love of Christ.
 - i. Let God be true! Rom 3:4; Read and believe the word of God! Rom 10:17.
- c. The list: each item can each separate from God's love in any other context but in Christ.
 - i. In any state, by any force, at any time, in any place, from any creature...
- d. *"death... life"* –Death separates (it doesn't extinguish); life is mortal, vain, corrupt by sin
- e. *"principalities and"* – no law or ruler found anywhere – Eph 6:12, Col 1:16, 2:9-10,15-17
- f. *"things present"* – present times, evil days, people, nations – Gal 1:4, Rom 8:18
- g. *"things to come"* – There is a world to come, too - Eph 1:21, 3:21
- h. *"height... depth"* – We know something now Job 11:7-9, 22:12, Eph 4:10, 3:18
- i. *"any creature"* – Old creature, new creature, any created thing – Rev 5:13, Phi 2:10
- j. *"is able"* - not simply nothing will, but nothing is able to separate you. Impossible.
 - i. What God has joined together let no man... is now no man *can* put asunder.
- k. The inseparable position is in Christ Jesus our Lord → Rom 4:24, 5:21, 6:23, 7:25, 8:39
- l. *How did we get into Christ?* According to the dispensation of God's gospel of grace.