

**Ministry of The Holy Spirit**  
**The Security of the Children of God**  
**Romans 8:28-39**

Last time...who we are:

- adopted children of God
- heirs of God
- joint-heirs with Jesus Christ

This time...how secure can we be in who we are?

This letter to the saints in Rome reaches a crescendo

We continue in Rom 8

v28    We

- adopted children of God
- heirs of God
- joint-heirs with Jesus Christ
- who love God
- who are the called/invited/saints (Rom 1:6-7)

know that all things...whatsoever, no matter what or who or when or why or how  
work together for good...for our benefit  
according to God's purpose/intention/plan...which has eternity in mind

Nothing in this life EVER is bigger than our Father Who is working for our benefit!  
It takes faith to embrace this verse and to be comforted by it.

1. How could this be true for Charity?  
    Testimony as of now and testimony not yet concluded
2. How could this be true for a 9 year old girl whose mother died in an  
    automobile accident and whose father abandoned her, who asked God why  
    she was born into a poor family with no parents when all her friends had  
    both parents and were not impoverished?
3. How could this be true for Nick and John?

Nick, 3 yr old, burn victim

John, 21 yr old Chaplain

Never saw Nick again but, despite having no faith, prayed for him and his  
family EVERY day for 20 years...until he mustered the courage to  
search for him

Nick (age 24):

It is what it is

Harsh mercy

Entire family came to faith in Christ, all are now devout Christians

Helped John 20 years later see the loving God in the situation

If ask “Why would a loving God...” you are listening to devil and he is winning

“Why?!” is the easiest question to ask and the last one answered.

Maybe not until the Throne Room

Our fleeting short term perspective vs His eternal perspective

It takes faith to embrace this verse and to be comforted by it.

Evidence of faith – surrender of one’s will

How we can surrender – because we know!

We know what has God said to us BEFORE we get to His Throne Room

Eccl 3:11      He hath made every *thing* beautiful **in his time**: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that **no man can find out the work that God maketh** from the beginning to the end.

Job 9:10      Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.

Rom 11:33

Ezra 8:22b      The hand of our God *is* upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath *is* against all them that forsake him.

Neh 2:18      Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for *this* good *work*.  
(the good hand of God upon His servants Ezra and Nehemiah)

Neh 13:1-2      On that day they read in the book of Moses in the audience of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of God for ever; Because they met not the children of Israel with bread and with water, but hired Balaam against them, that he should curse them: **howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing.**

2 Cor 1:3-7 “good” or “bad”, it always ends up good!

While we are on this earth in these mortal corrupted bodies?

Many times, yes, but does everything always end up “rosy” for the followers of Jesus Christ?

How did life in this world end for Stephen?

Stoned to death...his eyes fixed on Jesus in heaven

How did life in this world end for the Apostle Paul?

His head was chopped off...ready to leave this world having finished his course and receive his crown of righteousness

How did life in this world end for other followers of the Lord?

Heb 11:35-38 others were tortured (e.g. burned at the stake), not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth.

1 Peter 1:5-7 kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

No matter what happens in this world in our days as pilgrims and strangers, it ends well – in the presence of God forever!

We know because...

v29 Because we whom God did foreknow  
the foreknowledge of the All-knowing God from before the foundation of the  
world

John 6:64 For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed  
not, and who should betray him.

John 6:70 Jesus answered them, *Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of  
you is a devil?*

He did also predestinate...

pre-determine, ordain, choose because of another's choice

Eph 1:3-12

God did not make the choice for any person, but in His foreknowledge He knows  
every individual person's choice

- to believe Him or not  
(John 3:16, John 6:28-29, 1 Tim 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9b)
- of life or death (Deut 30:15-20)

The error of Calvinism – God made the choice for every person, no person  
chooses

Calvinism is a false doctrine

The Word of God teaches

- God chooses
- every person must choose
- God knows all the choices of all persons from before the foundation of  
the world and He chose accordingly

to be conformed to the image/likeness of His Son

John 3:30

2 Cor 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the  
Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as  
by the Spirit of the Lord.

so that He

Jesus, the Son of God

might be the firstborn among many brethren...

what "firstborn" means

Col 1:12-22

why are we conformed

for His Son Jesus' sake!

Heb 2:9-11 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for  
the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by  
the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became  
him, for whom *are* all things, and by whom *are* all things, in  
bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their  
salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth  
and they who are sanctified *are* all of one: for which cause he is  
not ashamed to call them brethren

The work of the Father is "about us"...but it is really "about" Jesus!

And not only that but also...

v30   whom He did predestinate He also called  
      Based on His foreknowledge of all person's choice, He called/bid/invited/greeted  
      those who chose to believe Him (v28)  
      Gen 15:6  
      Gal 3:26       For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.  
      Gal 3:29       And if ye *be* Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs  
                      according to the promise.

whom He called He also justified  
      the called are judged to be "Not Guilty", are declared absolutely and completely  
      innocent

who He justified He also glorified  
      resurrection unto eternal life in a glorified body not made by hands, eternal in the  
      heaven  
      John 11:40     Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest  
                      see the glory of God?  
      2 Cor 4:6      For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath  
                      shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory  
                      of God in the face of Jesus Christ.  
                      (the firstfruits of Resurrection, 1 Cor 15:23)

v31   So what does this...v28-30...mean?  
      How secure and sure is our predestination, calling, justification, and glorification?  
      A statement in the form of a question:  
      If/Since God be for us, who can be against us?

Since God is for us –

- salvation by grace thru faith, the gift of eternal life
- predestination, calling, justification, and glorification

Ps 118:6       The LORD *is* on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto  
                  me?

John 1:12-13

1 John 3:5     (Jesus) was manifested to take away our sin

1 John 3:8b    For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might  
                  destroy the works of the devil.

Heb 2:14b-15   that through death he might destroy him that had the power of  
                  death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of  
                  death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. (to set us free from  
                  the bondage of sin and death by making reconciliation for our sins)

Who is against us – for our destruction and eternal death  
Satan and his demonic gang  
The world  
The children of the devil

Which of them can over-power the Almighty Creator God to “un-do” what God  
has done?

Col 2:8-15

And besides...

v32 God did not spare His Son of the suffering and shame necessary to be our  
Kinsman-Redeemer but rather surrendered Him, as His sin sacrifice for the sins of  
the whole world, to be shamefully mistreated by sinful man  
Since the Father did that, how could He possibly and justly not freely give/pardon/forgive  
us, His adopted children by grace thru faith, of all things (sins)?

How could the Father “look His Son in the eye” and say to Him,

“I know what you endured before and on the Cross

2 Cor 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin;  
that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2 John 2:1-2 And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our  
sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole  
world.

Matt 20:28 **Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but  
to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**  
(whosoever would believe)

I know You said, ‘It is finished” (Paid in Full, John 19:30), but I have decided  
that Your suffering, shame, and sacrifice is insufficient or is not applicable  
for this sin/person.

You actually did not Pay in Full, You were not really finished.”

Those would be the words of a cruel father of anti-grace and anti-love!

Could the Father in heaven, as He has revealed Himself to us by His Word EVER  
say such a thing to Jesus our Lord and Savior?

No, not EVER!

Therefore...v31...God **is** for us and there are **none** against us that can over-power God!

In addition...

v33 Who shall accuse us...God's elect/chosen/children/the called...  
before the Judge of the world?

Rev 12:10

But...John 8:44

God, the Judge of the world, has justified us (v30)

Jesus Christ satisfied the Father's justice so the Father is just and right to declare  
innocent all those "in Christ"

The satisfaction of His justice makes His grace right and fair (Rom 5:1)

So who can over-rule the Judge of the world to say differently?

In addition...

v34 Who can condemn the justified/innocent children of God of being or doing wrong?

After all, it was Jesus Christ the Son of God that died, rose again, and returned in triumph  
to the right hand of the Father in heaven to remove the condemnation from  
whosoever believes

John 1:29

John 3:16-17

John 12:47

And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge  
him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the  
world.

Rom 6:3-5, 9-11, 14

Rom 8:1

Ps 103:12

As far as the east is from the west, *so* far hath he removed  
our transgressions from us.

1 Peter 1:18-20a

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with  
corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain  
conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; But  
with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without  
blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained  
before the foundation of the world

And now back in the presence of the Father, Jesus is also (v27) interceding with perfect  
prayer for us!!!

God the Holy Spirit AND God the Son are praying to God the Father for us!!!

What condemnation of our enemy can override the

- truly finished work of Jesus Christ to remove the condemnation?
- perfect intercessory prayers of Jesus Christ in heaven?

None!

None can be (prevail) against us...none can over-power the Almighty God (v31)  
None can accuse us of wrong and none can condemn us...none can over-rule the Judge of  
the world (v32-34)

Therefore...

- v35 Who is able to separate us, the children of God, from the love of Christ?  
Is 59:1-2, the sin that separated us from God, is why Jesus came/was sent  
God's pure motive for reconciliation was Self-less Love...for our good

Who can over-ride the perfect Love of God for us?  
Can the sufferings of this world?

Tribulation?

Troubles, afflictions

No, they teach us the depths of God's Word

Ps 119:71 *It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes*

Distress?

Anguish, calamity

No, they are used by God to test and grow our faith in Him

Persecution?

Hated by the world like Jesus was hated by the world

1 John 3:13 Marvel not if the world hate you

2 Tim 3:12

Phil 1:29

Matt 5:9-12

Acts 5:41

Famine?

Food shortages

Baby formula shortages

Nakedness

Shame before the inhabitants of this world

Peril?

Dangers behind enemy lines

Sword?

War, pre-meditated or random violent crimes of man-kind



The sufferings of this world are many

- Physical
  - illnesses and diseases
  - Mitochondrial
  - cancer
  - Parkinson's, Dementia, Alzheimer's
  - viruses
    - COVID
    - shingles...chicken pox in hiding
  - bacteria
- Emotional/relational
  - divorce
  - estrangement
  - loss of a loved one

Can anything in this world separate us from the love of Christ?

Does the hostility of the world?

v36 Quoting Ps 44:22, life in this world is very hard on those who choose to believe God and follow Jesus Christ the Good Shephard on the path He walked

The world hates God

The world hates Jesus Christ

The world hates those who follow Jesus Christ

1 John 5:19 we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness

But

Matt 10:28

Matt 28:20

Heb 13:5b-6 I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord *is* my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

v37 Nay...no way!  
in all these things...v31-32, v33-34, v35-36  
we are more than conquerors...indomitable, not able to be subdued by anything through Him that loved us...Jesus goes before us, Jesus has our back, Jesus won!  
1 John 4:4  
Rom 5:8  
Is 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

Ps 44:5-8      Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us. For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me. But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put them to shame that hated us. In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever

The victory of [Rom 7:25](#) is absolute and eternal!

v38-39    Since none can

- over-power God
- over-rule the Judge of the world
- over-ride the love of Christ

I am persuaded

ala [Rom 4:17-22](#)

[2 Tim 1:7-12](#)

[2 Tim 4:18](#)

that neither/nothing

- in the physical realm...death and life
- in the spiritual realm...angels, principalities, powers (Eph 6:12)
- in the time realm...things today or things tomorrow
- in any place...no matter how elevated or how depressed
- any creature...spiritual or physical

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus

The answer to v35a: NOTHING, not ever!

No matter how “bad” things get in this world, it will always end well for the children of God!

Job 19:25-27a

For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth: And *though* after my skin *worms* destroy this *body*, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another

### **Application/Exhortation**

Examine the worst thing(s) that have happened to you in your life in this world;

Has any good come from it?

How...rather, Who?

NOTHING can separate the Father from the Son nor the Son from the Father

John 10:30

One is indivisible

Therefore NOTHING can separate the Body from the Head or the Head from the Body

John 17:20-23, 26

One is indivisible

Eccl 3:14      I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it,  
nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth *it*, that *men* should fear before him.

Result for us:

- Absolute security and safety in a world without security and safety
- Absolute peace in a world without peace
- Absolute contentment in a world without contentment
- No fear in a world filled with fear
- Certain hope in a world without hope
- Eternal joy in a world without joy