

SERMON NOTES

SERIES: Romans: God's Power for Salvation
TITLE: Blindingly Clear
SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:31-39
DATE: March 18, 2018
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The book of Romans is a masterfully written exposition of the gospel of God. Without a doubt, it is the foundation of authentic Christianity and the most articulate, systematic understanding of our faith found in the Bible. Countless lives have been changed by the truth found in this ancient letter, and it continues to change lives today. Interestingly enough, Romans was written to Christians. So, while the good news found in Romans can certainly bring people to faith in Jesus, the actual focus is on how the gospel helps Christians think rightly about God, life, faith, and Christian community. If you want to grow to know God more personal and intimate way, this letter is for you!

Big Idea: For those who have believed in Jesus, Romans 8:31-39 is a blindingly clear reminder that nothing can separate you from the love and acceptance of God.

Before we complete our "8-in-8" section of Romans, we need to be reminded why this section is important by looking back at what Paul has been saying since Romans 1.

1. In Romans 1-8, Paul's overarching idea is that the good news of Jesus is God's power for salvation.
2. This completes Paul's single section of Romans 5-8 in which talks about what it's like to live well as God's rescued people.
3. Paul wants us to know that we walk according to the Spirit and not the flesh.

Paul sets out in Romans 8:31-39 to be even more clear so that we understand what he has been saying since Romans 1:1. Paul's approach to be more clear is to ask seven total questions. We will consider these questions in 3 sections.

I. Who Can Be Against Us?

Answer: Nothing ultimately stands against you, because Jesus has already been stood against and been charged for you.

II. Who Can Condemn Us?

Answer: No One! For Jesus intercedes for you on the basis of his death and resurrection.

III. Who Can Separate Us?

Answer: Nothing and No one! For the Spirit makes us know the love of God in Christ Jesus.

For those who have put their hope, assurance, and trust in Jesus by believing the Gospel; God wants to be blindingly clear about what is true of you:

1. Nothing stands against you.

2. Nothing can bring a charge against you.
3. No one can condemn you.
4. Nothing can separate you.
5. You are more than conquerors.
6. Nothing and no one can change that.
7. God loves you because he loves his Son, Jesus.

For Discussion —

1. Who do you believe stands against you today? What charge against you feels like is sticking?
2. Who do you believe condemns you today? What do you believe is condemning you?
3. Who do you believe is separating you from experience the love of God? What are you allowing to convince you that God has moved away from you and taken his love from you?
4. What about the Gospel-the good news about Jesus-do you need to speak to these lies in order to live in out the Gospel in your life?
5. How will you remind yourself every day that in Jesus, God is blindingly clear that:
 - a. Nothing stands against you.
 - b. Nothing can bring a charge against you.
 - c. No one can condemn you.
 - d. Nothing can separate you.
 - e. You are more than conquerors.
 - f. Nothing and no one can change that.
 - g. God loves you because he loves his Son, Jesus.
6. How can this group help you remember this?