

God-for-us

Romans 8:31-38

Crescendo

- “Crescendo” = final highlight
 - From Italian word *crescere* “to grow”
- In classical music: grand finale, louder, all instruments
- Romans 8 is a crescendo, a masterpiece of Christian life
- Rom 8:31-38 a crescendo of a crescendo!

Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor
life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all
creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ
Jesus our Lord.

The high note: God is for us

- Paul ends Rom 8 assuring us of God's love
- He uses a series of questions, answers and statements
- *“What then shall we say of these things?”* = what he wrote so far
- God loves and cares for us
- Not a promise of smooth life, but God's love

**The Christian can be sure of
God's love, care and protection**

Assurances for the Christian

1. God is for us: Victory

- Verse 31
- Satan desires to break down, tempt, destroy
- With God no enemy is too big
- Isaiah 40:11 *“He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young” (KJV)*

2. God gave us Jesus: Forgiveness

- Verse 32
- God gave his own Son, the biggest Gift
- If God gave us Jesus, He will not withhold anything else from us
- God will give whatever works to support us

3. God justified us: Freedom

- Verse 33
- Satan is the great enemy, the accuser
 - Zech 3:1 - *Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him;*
 - Rev 12:10 - *For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.*
- Satan will make us feel guilty, failures
- But God is the One who justifies, accepts, forgives us

4. God gave us access: Represented

- Verse 34
- God is the Judge, can condemn us
- But God himself provided Jesus as Mediator
- Jesus died, rose, is at God's side, intercedes for us

4. God loves us: Safety

- Verses 35-36; 38-39 (John 3:16)
- God loves us
- Nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ
- None of the difficulties in this world takes God's love away

5. God protects us: Conquerors

- Verse 37
- In all dangers/suffering we are “more than conquerors”
- “More-than” = God-dependent
- We are on the winning side
- Final outcome of battle is known (Revelation)

Respond

The ONLY appropriate response to being loved is to embrace it

1. If you're searching: Know that God loves you, that Jesus died for you and you can be His child by accepting His love in Jesus Christ
2. If you're a Christian: Embrace God's love, enjoy His blessings!

Communion: Romans 8:32-34

He who did not spare his own Son

but gave him up for us all

how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?

It is God who justifies

Who is to condemn?

Christ Jesus is the one who died

more than that, **who was raised**

who is at the right hand of God

who indeed is interceding for us

Prayer