

In Christ, God Loves You

Pastor Hangyul Cho 19/4/20

Romans 8: 31-39

Sermon Summary

In writing Romans 8: 31-39, Paul is reflecting on the immense greatness of God. Pastor Han suggests, as we read it, that we search for the 'takeaway point' in the passage. It is to be found in seeking the value of living in God's salvation. We must live with hope, love, and God's justice.

God loves his people. We know that. We repeat it frequently. Yet we must NOT trivialize that statement. We must understand it as a deep mind-blowing effect on our very being. It truly is **amazing** grace.

Paul unleashes 5 questions leading to 5 answers (plus a conclusion) giving absolute assurance that God is with us no matter what life throws at us.

- 1. Verse 31. If God is for us, who can be against us?** Firstly, the 'us' is referring to Christians. That is important to remember, especially in these harrowing times. But the 'who' can be anyone; it could be one's boss, the world's system, Satan. No matter the 'who', God will NOT fail us. No matter the 'what', with God WE WIN! We know that God loves his people, and while that can sometimes be said in a trivial manner, it is really the most important truth we should constantly be reminded of: God is for us.
- 2. Verse 32. He who did not spare his own son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?** God did not spare his only son in order to redeem us. He shut his ears to Jesus' plea on the Cross: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46). How much more proof do we really need? Will God ever give up on us? Jesus was abandoned on the Cross so that we WON'T be! The Cross is where God sold his love for us. This is unfathomable deep love. His grace is not dependent on our good works.
- 3. Verse 33. Who will bring any charge against those whom God has CHOSEN?** No one person can de-justify us. There is no higher court than God. No one is more powerful than God. God has already declared us **NOT** guilty. "Whom **God** has chosen": That's a sinner; that's us. A man (fable) went around the world looking for the perfect boy he could adopt; one that had the capabilities of being academically and sportingly brilliant with whom he could bask in the world's admiration. Another man (true story) adopted the young man who had killed his own young son. That type of fatherly love is the same God has for us. It is the way He works: He saves sinners.
- 4. Verse 34. Who then is the one who condemns [us]?** NO ONE. Because Jesus – who is at the right hand of God – intercedes for us. Any person trying to condemn us is

actually trying to condemn Jesus. And that includes us. We cannot condemn ourselves once we have acknowledged Jesus as Savior. Don't beat up on yourself.

5. **Verse 35. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Does Covid-19 prove that Christ no longer loves us? **NO!** Check out the number of things we have conquered: trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, sword. And, do you think having Covid-19 among us proves that God no longer loves us? **Never!** We are conquerors (verse 37); we are not victims. In fact, all our enemies have been conquered. Jesus has defeated them on our behalf; they already sit under Jesus' feet. They now serve Jesus. In Jesus' name they should now serve you. We may not like the bad things that happen to us. They may 'suck'. But through them, God continues to love us. We are not victims.

6. **Verses 38-39. [NOTHING] can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** We certainly have no idea of what the post-Covid-19 life will hold. All we can do is stand firm on God's truth about Himself and us.