

Bible Study of Romans
Romans 8:31-39

In these last verses Paul wrote a triumphant application of the previous teaching covered in this epistle. The four (rhetorical) questions are asked to assure all who are 'in Christ' of their impregnable security so that they might enjoy an invincible confidence in God. A 'rhetorical question' is a figure of speech in the form of a question that is asked to make a point rather than get an answer. In other words, each question really answers itself. Paul, however, isn't content to leave the question unanswered. He used the questions as pegs on which to hang a glorious tribute to God's sovereign grace. The closing section is the climax of this beautiful chapter.

vs. 31

1. How is it evident from the previous verses that God is for us?

2. Paul's question 'Who can be against us?' does imply that each believer will experience forces or person against him or her. What are they?

3. What other Scriptures can you share which confirms that God will remain with His people?

4. Even the best of believers may be tempted to distrust God. What are the things that generally inspire distrust in the heart of the believers? How will you counsel a fellow believer who struggles with distrust?

vs. 32

4. What does Holy Spirit intend to convey to us by directing our thoughts in this context to God's gift of Jesus?

5. Paul makes use of 'logic' in this verse. What is the intent of this logic? Are we allowed or encouraged to use logic when we deal with our spiritual troubles?

6. Paul wrote the God delivered His Son for 'us all.' How do we define this 'us all?' How do we defend this with other Scriptures?

Haldane wrote, "Among the temptations to which the believer is exposed in this life, some are from without, others are from within. Within are the alarms of conscience, fearing the wrath of God; from the outside are adversity and tribulations. Unless he overcomes the first (the inward doubts and fears) , he cannot prevail again the second. It is impossible that he can possess true patience and confidence in God in his afflictions, if his conscience labors under the apprehension of God's wrath. Paul therefore first wants to fortify the believer's conscience against its fears from guilt and next secures it against external temptations from afflictions. "

vs. 33

7. Who shall try to lay anything or everything against the charge of God's elect? What things would these try to lay against God's elect?

8. What is the surest ground of comfort for the believer against all accusations that may and will be leveled against them?

9. What is the comfort of 'It is God that justifieth?'

vs. 34

10. If someone cannot be charged, can he or she be condemned? Find a few other Scriptures to confirm this truth.

11. What are the four reasons Paul list that the believer in Christ cannot be condemned?

vs. 35-36

12. Does this final question refer to 'our love to Christ or Christ's love to us?'

13. What is the difference in the cases mentioned in these verses as compared to the verses 31-34?

14. How does one suffer for *Christ's sake*?

15. If the Scripture states that 'God's children will be killed *all the day long*' why is it that we don't experience that at the present moment? Does this mean that we are not quite as Christian and therefore the world leaves us at peace?

vs. 37

16. How can we be 'more than conquerors?'

17. What is the secret of this conquest over all the tribulations?

Haldane wrote, "In the preceding verses Paul had proclaimed the triumph of believers over everything within and without them, that seemed to endanger their security. He had spoken of tribulation, distress etc. over all of which he had pronounced them more than

conquerors. He now proceeds, in the same triumphant language, to defy enemies still more formidable, asserting that all the conceivable powers of the universe shall not be able to separate them from the love of God which is in Jesus Christ.”

vs. 38-39

18. How did Paul speak of his assurance in 2 Tim. 1:12? How does that compare to this statement?

19. Define the word ‘persuaded.’ Does that belong to faith or is that a matter of our reasoning?

20. Define the various aspects of the reality Paul listed.

a. death:

b. life:

c. angels:

d. principalities, nor powers:

e. things present, nor things to come:

f. height/depth:

g. any other creature:

21. Is there a difference between the ‘love of Christ’ (vs. 35) and the ‘love of God’ (vs. 39)?

22. How has the study of this chapter helped you personally?

23. If you find one struggling with the personal assurance of faith, what would you say to direct such an one?

Hallelujah! For the LORD GOD omnipotent reigneth!