

MORE THAN CONQUERORS!

Romans 8:31-39

People's concern about security:

How can we KNOW we've been good enough?

Cults reinforce our fear: "You can't know!"

Hebrews 2 warns: ***fear of death*** keeps people enslaved.

Security expressed in old Swedish hymn:

=> Children of the Heavenly Father/Security

More secure is no one ever Than the loved ones of the Savior;

Not yon star, on high abiding, Nor the bird in home nest hiding.

God His own doth tend and nourish,

In His holy courts they flourish;

Like a father kind He spares them,

In His loving arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death can ever From the Lord His children sever;

For His love and deep compassion Comforts them in tribulation.

Rest secure with this Defender, At His will, all foes surrender.

Rom 8 contains *Paul's SECURITY* hymn.

Since God sees us ***in Christ***, because we trust Him,

we have no reason to fear...

We have confidence to draw near to God today

–and certainty we'll be able to come tomorrow also.

THREE REASONS FOR TRUE SECURITY

1. We're secure because nothing's missing We lack nothing! **8:31-32** "What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He 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?"

Trusting Christ – *God is now on our side.*

Implication: *if God's on our side, who can be against us?*

Conditional "***if***" assumes it's true = "since God is for us, ..."

God designed plan to make us in image of His Son

If God's on our side, what can harm us?

What can destroy *His* plan?

God *already* paid highest price to purchase our salvation

He allowed His Son to die for us.

If He's willing to pay that price when we're enemies, how much will He give now to His adopted children?

We can be sure He'll supply everything we need.

God didn't SPARE HIS SON

God GAVE HIM UP FOR US

What *more* can we expect Him to do?

[Just] **give us all things!**

Beggar asked **Alexander the Great** for alms. Poor & wretched, he had no *right* to ask. Emperor threw him some gold coins. Aid commented, "Sir, copper coins would meet a beggar's need!" Alexander responded: "Copper coins would suit *beggar's* need, but gold coins suit Alexander's giving."

That's what God's giving is like! God provides all we need. In Christ we lack nothing.

If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. We're secure because there's no condemnation 33-34 "*Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.* ³⁴*Who is he that*

condemns? No one. Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God & is also interceding for us.”

Who can accuse God's chosen ones? ONLY GOD!

God justifies us—He declares us righteous

Only One with right to condemn us already said He won't.

God sees us ***in Christ*** because we've trusted Him.

If God, the Judge, declares us righteous, *who can accuse us?*

Who will condemn us? NO ONE!

God's Son, has guaranteed that no one can condemn us

Christ is the One who DIED

He died to pay debt we owe because of our sin.

Christ is the One who was raised to life again

Affirms God accepts sacrifice for those who trust Him.

Christ is seated at God's right hand

Position confirms God accepts His work. *It's finished!*

Christ intercedes for us.

He hears accusations Satan brings & intercedes for us.

***IF GOD HAS DONE ALL THIS FOR US,
WHO WOULD DARE CONDEMN US?***

3. We're secure because there's no separation

8:35-39 *“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who*

loved us. ³⁸For I'm convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that's in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Nothing can separate us from God's love for us.

Paul presents series: things that separate people.

Notice what **CAN'T** separate us from God's love:

Natural tragedies take life; separate from people we love.

But death can't separate us from God;

Tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, sword, can't touch us, unless it's God's plan

If God planned it, it's for our welfare.

...He'll use it to make us into Christ's image so He's glorified in us.

Such events can't separate us from His love.

Death for God's children isn't defeat—it's super-victory.

How can we be hurt going to be with Him who loves us?!!

We aren't defeated; we're MORE than conquerors!

Death is *not* tragedy. We exert energy to stay alive; *if death takes us to God's presence, why fight that?*

Present with Him, we'll be better off.

Death can't separate us from God's love.

We're no longer victims of such events.

We triumph overwhelmingly.

Enemy can't touch us *anywhere* that harms us!

We're more than conquerors through Christ

Nothing can separate us from God's love

DEATH doesn't separate us; when we die we're with Him.

LIFE doesn't separate us; He promised to be with us until end

Spiritual beings oppose God's plan:

Angels, principalities (=spiritual authorities, incl. demons)

nothing present, nothing yet to come, no power
(supernatural or otherwise)!

These creatures can afflict us; they can cause us to suffer.

Angels, principalities & powers oppose God's plan

They can't prevent God's plan to finish what He started

HEIGHT, DEPTH

Nothing can come down from heaven, natural or supernatural,
to separate us from God's love.

Neither can anything come up out of the earth or its depths, to
separate us from God's love.

NOR ANY OTHER CREATED THING1

**Nothing of all God created can separate us from
His love.** That includes everything that exists!

This last category includes US!

What can separate us from God's love?

When we're in Christ, we can be sure nothing & nobody—not
even our own failure—can separate us from God's love.

His love is found in Jesus Our Lord—NOT in us!

Our position *NEVER HAS depended on our efforts*, salvation by
faith depends exclusively on Christ's work on the cross.

NEVER, NOT in past... NOT in present... NOR in future...
has it–nor will it–depend on our efforts.

Therefore, *when we're in Christ, we can rest secure*
We're God's children through Christ alone.

Nothing God has created, not even we ourselves, can separate us from God. **He** has promised not to.

Therefore, *in Christ we have AUTHENTIC security.*

Back in Rom. 6-7 Paul indicates that security of being God's child should *never* serve as a pretext to sin.

So, *what should our logical response be?*

3 LOGICAL RESPONSES TO TRUE SECURITY:

*** CONFIDENCE * GRATITUDE * HOLY LIVING**

David says... *"I can lay down and go to sleep at night"*
because I know I'm secure!

"More secure is no one ever Than the loved ones of the Savior;
Neither life nor death can ever From the Lord His children sever;

**" "We are MORE than conquerors,
through Him Who loves us."**

NOTHING can separate us from His love!

Praise God! We're secure in Him!