



# FREEDOM & FULFILLMENT Part 3

Warren W. Wiersbe, [\*The Bible Exposition Commentary\*](#), vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 541–543.

**Fear**LESS



## Romans 8:31–39 (NKJV)

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 delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?  
Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or  
famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all  
day long; We are accounted as sheep for the  
slaughter."

37 Yet in all these things we are more than  
conquerors through Him who loved us.

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# Freedom from Fear-No Separation (Rom. 8:31–39)

# Freedom from fear – No Separation

- There is no condemnation because we share the righteousness of God and the Law cannot condemn us.
- There is no obligation because we have the Spirit of God who enables us to overcome the flesh and live for God.

- There is no frustration because we share the glory of God, the blessed hope of Christ's return.
- There is no separation because we experience the love of God:
- "What shall separate us from the love of Christ?" (Rom. 8:35)

- The emphasis in this final section is on the security of the believer.
- **We do not need to fear the past, present, or future because we are secure in the love of Christ.**
- Paul presented five arguments to prove that there could be no separation between the believer and the Lord.



# 1. God is for us (v. 31).

Romans 8:31 (NKJV) What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

- The Father is for us and proved it by giving His Son (**Rom. 8:32**).
- The Son is for us (**Rom. 8:34**) and so is the Spirit (**Rom. 8:26**).
- God is making all things work for us (**Rom. 8:28**).
- In His person and His providence, God is for us.

- Sometimes, like Jacob, we lament, when actually everything is working for us.

Genesis 42:36 (NKJV) And Jacob their father said to them, “You have bereaved me: Joseph is no more, Simeon is no more, and you want to take Benjamin. All these things are against me.”

- The conclusion is obvious: “If God be for us, who can be against us?”

- The believer needs to enter into each new day realizing that God is for him.
- There is no need to fear, for his loving Father desires only the best for His children, even if they must go through trials to receive His best.
- “ ‘For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope’ ” (Jer. 29:11, NASB).

## 2. Christ died for us (v. 32).

Romans 8:32 (NKJV) He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

The argument here is from the lesser to the greater.

- If when we were sinners, God gave us His best, now that we are God's children, will He not give us all that we need?

Romans 5:6 (NKJV) For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:10 (NKJV) For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

The argument here is from the lesser to the greater.

- Jesus used this same argument when He tried to convince people that it was foolish to worry and fear.

God will supply our needs according to His glorious wealth!



## Matthew 6:25–27 (NKJV)

25 “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

# God cares for us!

- God cares for the birds and sheep, and even for the lilies; surely He will care for you!
- God is dealing with His own on the basis of Calvary's grace, not on the basis of Law.
- God freely gives all things to His own!

### 3. God has justified us (v. 33).

Romans 8:33 (NKJV) Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

This means that He has declared  
us righteous in Christ.

Satan would like to accuse us (Zech. 3:1–7;  
Rev. 12:10), but we stand righteous in  
Jesus Christ.

## Zechariah 3:1–7 (NKJV)

1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.

2 And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”

3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.

4 Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes."

5 And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by.

6 Then the Angel of the LORD  
admonished Joshua, saying,

7 “Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘If you will  
walk in My ways, And if you will keep My  
command, Then you shall also judge My  
house, And likewise have charge of My  
courts; I will give you places to walk  
Among these who stand here.

Revelation 12:10 (NKJV) Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.



# This means that He has declared us righteous in Christ.

- We are God's elect—chosen in Christ and accepted in Christ.
- God will certainly not accuse us since it is He who has justified us.
- For Him to accuse us would mean that His salvation was a failure and we are still in our sins.

# This means that He has declared us righteous in Christ.

- Understanding the meaning of justification brings peace to our hearts.
- When God declares the believing sinner righteous in Christ, that declaration never changes.
- Our Christian experience changes from day to day, but justification never changes.

# This means that He has declared us righteous in Christ.

- We may accuse ourselves, and men may accuse us; but God will never take us to court and accuse us.
- Jesus has already paid the penalty and we are secure in Him.

## 4. Christ intercedes for us (v. 34).

Romans 8:34 (NKJV) Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

# Dual Intercession

- A dual intercession keeps the believer secure in Christ: the Spirit intercedes ([Rom. 8:26–27](#)) and the Son of God intercedes ([Rom. 8:34](#)).
- The same Saviour who died for us is now interceding for us in heaven.
- As our High Priest, He can give us the grace we need to overcome temptation and defeat the enemy ([Heb. 4:14–16](#)).

## Hebrews 4:14–16 (NKJV)

14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

*As our Advocate,  
He can forgive our  
sins and restore  
our fellowship  
with God.*

1 John 1:9–2:2 (NKJV)

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.



Intercession means that Jesus Christ represents us before the throne of God and we do not have to represent ourselves.

- Paul hinted at this ministry of intercession in **Romans 5:9–10**. We are not only saved by His death, but we are also saved by His life.
- “Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them” (Heb. 7:25, NIV).

- Peter sinned against the Lord, but he was forgiven and restored to fellowship because of Jesus Christ.
- “Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has asked permission to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed especially for you that your own faith may not utterly fail” (Luke 22:31–32, WMS).

He is interceding for  
each of us, a  
ministry that assures  
us that we are  
secure.

# 5. Christ loves us (vv. 35–39).

Romans 8:35–39 (NKJV)

**35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**36** As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”

**37** Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

## 5. Christ loves us (vv. 35–39).

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**38** For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

**39** nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- In Romans 8:31–34 Paul proved that God cannot fail us, but is it possible that we can fail Him?
- Suppose some great trial or temptation comes, and we fail? Then what?
- Paul deals with that problem in this final section and explains that nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ.

To begin with, God does not shelter us from the difficulties of life because we need them for our spiritual growth.



## Romans 5:3–5 (NKJV)

3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

In **Romans 8:28** God assures us that the difficulties of life are working for us and not against us.

God permits trials to come that we might use them for our good and His glory.

- We endure trials for His sake (**Rom. 8:36**), and since we do, do you think that He will desert us?
- Of course not!
- Instead, He is closer to us when we go through the difficulties of life.

- Furthermore, He gives us the power to conquer (**Rom. 8:37**).
- We are “**more than conquerors,**” literally, “**we are super-conquerors**” through Jesus Christ!
- He gives us victory and more victory!

- We need not fear life or death, things present or things to come, because Jesus Christ loves us and gives us the victory.
- This is not a promise with conditions attached: “If you do this, God will do that.”

- This security in Christ is an established fact, and we claim it for ourselves because we are in Christ.
- Nothing can separate you from His love!
- Believe it—and rejoice in it!

- A review of this wonderful chapter shows that the Christian is completely victorious.
- We are free from judgment because Christ died for us and we have His righteousness.
- We are free from defeat because Christ lives in us by His Spirit and we share His life.

- We are free from discouragement because Christ is coming for us and we shall share His glory.
- We are free from fear because Christ intercedes for us and we cannot be separated from His love.



- No condemnation!
  - No obligation!
  - No frustration!
  - No separation!
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- If God be for us, who can be against us!



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