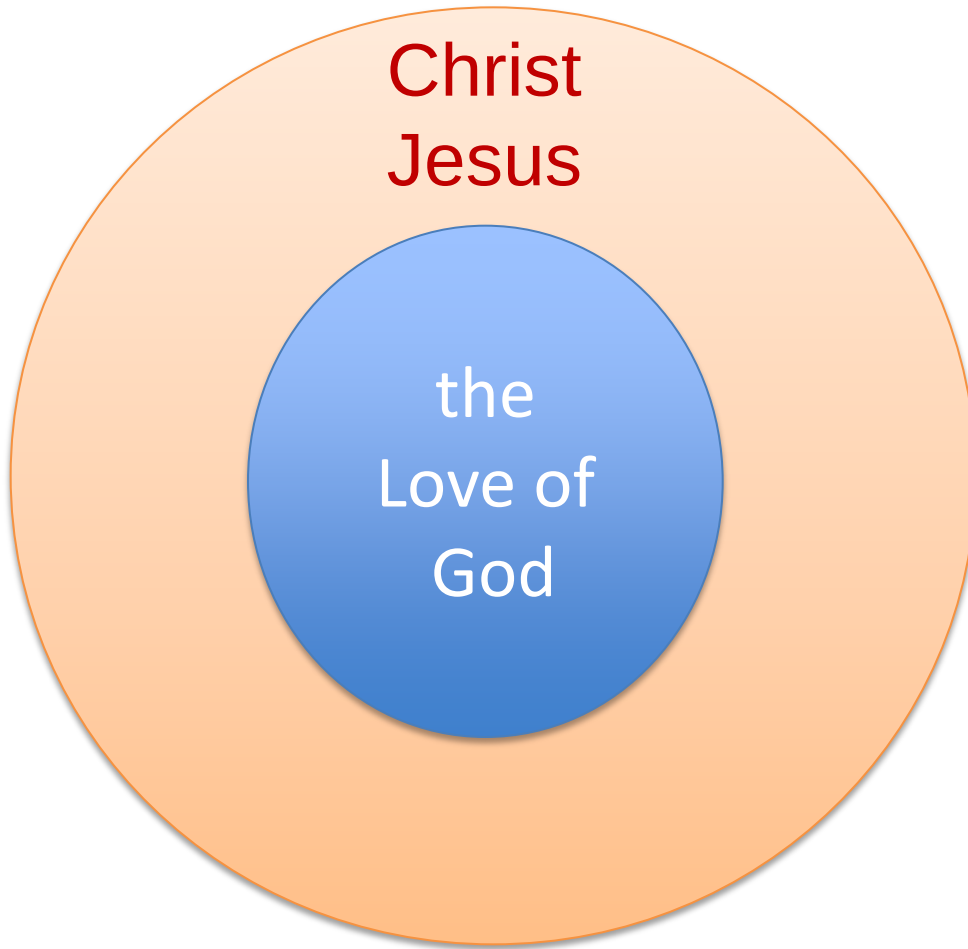




The love of God, which is **in** Christ Jesus our Lord.*



- **in** Christ Jesus
- *en* – *lit*: in union with
- so the love of God is in a living union with Christ
- Christ can never act outside of God's love

* Rom 8:39c

Background for today's verses – 3 Questions



31a What then shall “we say” to these things [all this]?

33a Who will “bring a charge” against God's **elect**?

35a Who “will separate” **us** from the love of Christ?

- or Who will make Christ stop loving us? Merryman
- Who is speaking of some “event” or “person”?
- Is there something that is going to happen to separate us from the love of Christ? Merryman
- Next, Paul will answer this question with 3 emphatic statements.

+ two early manuscripts read God 3

3 Emphatic statements about the “love of God”



- **First** - Paul lists 7 overwhelming experiences that could happen in a believer's life that will not separate him from the love of God. Merryman
- **Second** - Paul assures us about the love of God by our union with Christ and its conquering power.
- **Third** - Paul tells us of our absolute assurance in Christ over all adversaries and any created things.

Today's Verses

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

36 Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED."

37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through **Him who loved us.**

What a wonderful book this Word of God is! "Sheep for slaughter" naming themselves more than conquerors! Newell

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

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

37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer
through Him who loved us.

main subject/verb

we – Paul and all believers

overwhelmingly conquer - *hypernikaō* - to gain a surpassing victory, we utterly defeat our enemy [present]

- lit: we are hyper-conquerors
- We come off as conquerors in every difficulty,*
- We are to know that the Divine, and therefore infinite, power has been engaged for us in the conflict,*
- John 16:33b In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I [Jesus] have **overcome** [*nikao*] the world.

through Him who loved us.

- It's not through human energy of any kind, that we are more than conquerors.*

* Newell

37a But in all these things but – *alla* – strong contrast
in all these things - what things?

- connects us back to the end of verse 35
- list of 7 overwhelming events
 - tribulation - *thlipsis* - a pressing, pressure
 - distress - *stenochōria* - narrowness of place - distress arising from that condition, anguish
 - persecution - pursuit, particularly by enemies
 - famine - *limós* - want of food It is spoken of persons suffering hunger
 - nakedness - *gymnotēs* - want of sufficient clothing
 - peril - *kíndunos* - to be in danger
 - sword - *machaira* - a short sword or dagger

Last sentence in Chapter 8

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from **the love of God**, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Now Paul adds these additional items to the list of overwhelming events in a believer's life.
- And finally he expresses his persuasion that no created thing shall ever separate us from that love, i.e., shall ever be able to pluck us out of the Father's hand.

Alford

For (or) indeed

I am
convinced

neither death,
nor life,
nor angels,
nor principalities,
nor things present,
nor things to come,
nor powers,
nor height,
nor depth,
nor any other
created thing,

will be able

to separate
us

the love of
God

in Christ
Jesus our
Lord

- future tense
- lit: to have the power
- list of distresses
- lit: to separate oneself, depart
- love which comes from God as source
- This love is in our living union with Christ Jesus.

Rom 8:38-39

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

I am convinced – *peitho* – a process of persuasion

perfect tense – completed action in past time with abiding results

- I have found it, I'm not searching*
- The effect of it is still with me*
- This is the most firm conviction possible*

passive voice – the subject [I] receive the action of the verb

- Paul has been acted upon by something outside himself.*
- God's word has acted upon Paul about the truths in this verse.*

Paul was persuaded about the following “the things” in verses 38-39:*

- By using “I” [I am convinced] Paul is giving his personal testimony in these verses.
- These verses deepen and expand the list in verse 35.

1. neither death, nor life,

- God will continue to love us when we die, and He will continue to love us whatever may befall us now.
- No condition of existence can separate us from the love of God.

McCalley

2. nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers

- No supernatural being can separate us from the love of God.

McCalley

Paul was persuaded about the following “the things” in verses 38-39:*

3. **nor things present, nor things to come**

- Nothing in the present or future can change God’s love for us.
- No force of any kind can remove us from His loving care.

4. **nor height, nor depth,**

- Space cannot separate us from His loving care either.

5. **nor any other created thing,**

- Finally nothing in all creation can drive a wedge between the loving God and His redeemed people.

:39c will be able to separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

will be able to separate us

- **will be able** is the word *dynamai* - to have the power
- The items listed in verses 38 and 39 do not have the power to change our relationship to the love of God.
- **to separate** is the word *chorizo* - to put apart, separate, sever
- in the Middle Voice, to separate oneself, or depart
- again these items cannot separate us from the love of God

:39c will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord

- This verse makes an incredible statement.
- The love of God is in Christ Jesus – Jesus must be God
- God's love is all wrapped up in Christ Jesus.
- For us to have God's love, we must have a relationship with Christ Jesus
- 1 John 4:9 By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.
- Rom 5:5b because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

God Loved Us!

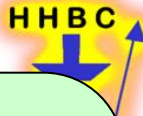
John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:19 We love, because He first loved us.

Summary Rom 6 to 8 - Christ's Life in Us



The Mechanics
of the
Believer's
Life

Chp 6

The Monkey
Wrench
of the
Believer's
life

Chp 7

The Dynamics
of the
Believer's
life

Chp 8

- Rom 6:11
Even so consider
yourselves to be
dead to [the] sin,
but alive to
God in
Christ Jesus.

- Rom 7:18
For I know that
nothing good dwells
in me, that is, in my flesh;
for the willing is present
in me, but the
doing of the good.

- Rom 7:24
Wretched man that
I am! Who will set me
free from the
body of this death?

- But when He, the
Spirit of Truth, comes,
He will guide you into
all the truth; for He will
not speak on His own
initiative, but whatever
He hears, He will
speak; and He will
disclose to you what
is to come. John 16:13

The Holy Spirit Is the Dynamic of the Christian Life



- Holy Spirit is the source of power. Wuest
- Holy Spirit is the Operator of the spiritual machinery in the inner being of the believer. Wuest
- The mind set on the Spirit is life and peace. Rom 8:6b
- However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if [since] indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Rom 8:9a
- The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God. Rom 8:16
- In the same way, the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. Rom 8:26

