



## Romans

### More than Conquerors 8:35-37

- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ - verse 35
  - Separate - to divide, to part, to put asunder
  - Love – agape love referred to here, the unconditional love which Christ has for us
  - Rhetorical question expecting a negative answer (2<sup>nd</sup> class conditional clause)
  - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ = who shall separate us from the Christ's love for us (subjective genitive clause)
  - The emphasis is not on what we do to maintain our love for Christ, but on what God has done in Christ to bring us into a relationship with Himself.
  - Because of what God has done no one nor anything will ever be able to separate us from the Christ's love for us.
  - Believers are so deeply positioned in Christ that nothing can divide them from His unconditional love



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- Seven examples of what cannot separate us from Christ's love
  - Tribulation, affliction, pressure or pressing together
  - Distress or narrowness
  - Persecution, to put to fight or drive away
  - Famine or hunger
  - Nakedness, lack of sufficient clothing
  - Peril or danger
  - Sword – meaning death by the sword
- Just as it is written - verse 36
  - Where was this previously written?
    - Psalm 44:22
- For thy sake we are put to death all day long.
  - For who's sake is referred to here?
    - Christ
  - We are put to death all day long.
    - Constant danger of being put to death, this happens all the time (present, indicative, passive)
- We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered
  - Counted, reckoned, numbered, destined or regarded to be
  - As sheep destined to be slaughtered



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- The Christians who Paul was writing to were experiencing difficult things.
  - Paul had seen Stephen stoned for his faith, Acts 7:54-60
  - Paul persecutes the church, Acts 8:3
  - James the brother of John is put to death by Herod, Acts 12:1-2
  - Peter imprisoned, Acts 12:3-5
  - Paul himself was stoned and left for dead, Acts 14:19
  - Paul wrote Romans in 57 A.D. and the temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. - Persecution was taking place and more on the horizon.
  - We know that the church has faced lots of persecution through the centuries.



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Areas of persecution throughout the world





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  - Peter imprisoned and miraculously released, Acts 12:3-19
  - Paul himself was stoned and left for dead, Acts 14:19
  - Paul wrote Romans in 57 A.D. and the temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. - Persecution was taking place and more on the horizon.
  - We know that the church has faced lots of persecution through the centuries.
  - Our difficulties come in different ways.
    - John 15:18-19 - As the world hated Christ so it also hates believers
    - We live in this fallen world therefore we will experience difficulties.
- But in all these things – verse 37
  - What are all these things?
    - Spiritual/Heavenly things – the Holy Spirit interceding for us; God causing all things to work together for good; we are called according to His purpose; His purpose for us is conformity to Christ's image; we are predestined, called, justified and glorified; God is for us and no one can be against us; Christ was delivered up for us; we have been freely given all things; no charge can be brought against us; we cannot be separated from God's love



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- Earthly/conditional things – tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, sword; any trial or suffering that we go through in this life
- We overwhelmingly conquer
  - Conquer – to win a victory
  - ‘Overwhelmingly’ or ‘more than’ – preposition intensifies the verb – super victor
    - Idea is a lopsided victory where the enemy or opponent is completely routed – gain a surpassing victory – we are hyper conquerors
  - What does it mean to overwhelmingly conquer?
  - Is this talking about an outward/circumstantial conquering or an inward/spiritual conquering?
    - Inward – Acts 16:22-25
    - No matter what situation we find ourselves in inwardly we are super victors
  - How is this conquering possible?
- Through Him who loved us
  - The means by which we are able to have inward/spiritual victory in Christ.
  - As we walk by faith and rest in what God has done for us and is doing for us we will experience inward spiritual victory no matter what situation we find ourselves in

John 1:3 & 7, 3:17, Acts 13:39, Rom. 5:9,  
Eph. 2:18, Phil. 4:13, Col. 1:19-20, 1 John 4:9