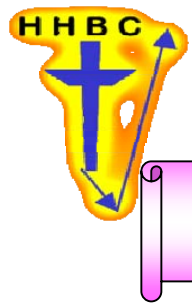




Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

- *Rom 8:38-39 – NKJV ‘For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.’*
 - **A bold and triumphant stand and/or a soft pillow for a tired and weary head!**
 - *Which do you prefer?*
 - Let’s reflect on from whence we’ve come
 - *Rom 3:21-5:21* – Justification by faith
 - *Rom 6* – Buried with Him in death, risen with Him in new life
 - *Rom 7* – Struggle of the old and new
 - *Rom 8* – The Spirit-led life



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

– To be persuaded

- peitho {pi'-tho}

Perfect passive

- What comes to mind here?

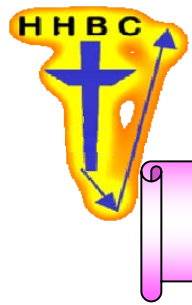
– to induce, to believe, to trust, to know - all possible

» Let's look at the *verses 35-36* again

» And then - *II Tim 1:12* 'For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for **I know whom I have believed and am persuaded** that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.'

» Where do you find yourself on this truth?

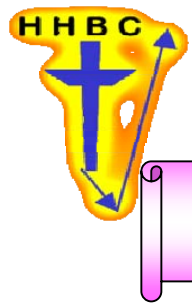
– Let's now look at those things that are into able to separate us from the love of God.



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

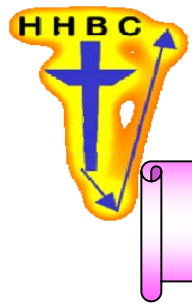
- *Death* - do you fear death?
 - What is your favorite verse to rely upon to give you peace?
 - William R. Newell cites
 - » *Heb 2:14,15 'Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, **He** also himself likewise took part of the same; that **through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.**'*
 - How about
 - » *1 Cor15:54,55 'So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, **Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?**'*
 - » *John 3:16 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him **should not perish, but have everlasting life.**'*



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

- *Life* - more difficult than death?
 - Again, *verses 35-36*
 - The answer - *Phil 1:21 'For to me to **live is Christ**, and to die is gain.'*
- *Angels* – messengers of God
 - To what group of angels does Paul refer to here – is it God's devoted or is it fallen angels?
 - » *Jude 1:6 'And the angels which kept not their first estate, **but left their own habitation**, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.'*
 - » *2 Peter 2:4 'For if God spared not **the angels that sinned**, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be **reserved unto judgment**;'*
- *Principalities* – in context authorities, rulers, magistrates
 - Comes from Greek word - arche {ar-khay'} which also means beginning, origin, or first person
 - An appropriate extension of the separation by angels



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

- *Eph 6:12* ‘For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the **rulers of the darkness** of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places].’
- *Powers* – here of the world system
 - Note that in ILG ‘*nor things present, nor things to come*’ precedes ‘*powers*’
 - *dunamis* {*doo'-nam-is*} – strength, power, ability
 - In the world system, what kind of things come to mind?
 - » Superstition, horoscope, luck
 - And the Lord Jesus Christ has conquered ‘*angels*’, *principalities*, and *powers*
 - » *Col 2:15* ‘And having **spoiled principalities and powers**, he made a show of them openly, **triumphing over them in it.**’
 - » *1 Peter 3:22* ‘Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; **angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto Him.**’



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

- *Things present*
 - How about Joseph, Job, Stephen, Paul
- *Things to come*
 - *Matt 6:31-34 'Therefore **take no thought**, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knows that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. **Take therefore no thought for the morrow**: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day [is] the evil thereof.'*
 - *Phil 4:6 'Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.'*
- *Height - hupsoma {hoop'-so-mah}*
 - Is this 'outer space' or related to our atmosphere here?



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

- » Probably just physical height, but ...
- » *II Cor 10:5* 'Casting down imaginations, and **every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;**'
- » And, Christ has risen to ultimate height – *Col 3:1-3*
- *Depth* – bathos {bath'-os}, simply to contrast with height
 - But, Christ has descended and conquered the 'abyss'
 - » *Matt 12:40-41*
 - And the Beast shall arise from the depths of the sea
 - » *Rev 13:1-8*
 - Let's reflect on *Eph 3:17-19*
- *Any other creature* – created thing
 - Gill – "This takes in the whole compass of created beings in heaven, earth, and sea; and most strongly expresses the inseparableness of the saints from the love of God, by anything or creature whatever; nothing in the whole universe."



Romans 8:38-39

No Separation in Christ

– *shall be able* to separate

Future

Aorist active

– *‘from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord’*

– McGee – **‘Salvation is a love story’**

» *1 John 4:9-10 ‘In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. **Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**’*

» *John 10:29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.*

– His relationship with us is unchanged by our failure!

• We are **positioned in His love** forever

– *Rom 8:31 ‘What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?’*