

## Romans Part 22 (8:31 - 8:39)

### --INTRO:

--tonight we're going to look at the last section in Romans 8 which has been called *The Hymn of Security*.

--in this section Paul takes a moment to pause and reflect, in a triumphal note, on the profound truths of our salvation that he has thus far explained in Romans before transitioning to the next section in chapter 9.

--in verse 31 Paul begins this section with the rhetorical question "What shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" and in verses 38-39 he ends this section with the proclamation, "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 created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (8:35-39)

--in other words, no "created thing" (which covers everything) can take away the salvation given to us by the Creator!

--these words would soon prove to be especially comforting to the early church, especially those in Rome to whom they were originally addressed...

--just 8 years after Paul wrote this epistle to the church in Rome, the infamous Roman emperor Nero secretly set Rome on fire in order to burn down the city so he could rebuild it on a grander scale; the fire destroyed over 50% of Rome and Nero used Christians as a scapegoat and falsely blamed them for the fire and thus launched a season of immense persecution against the church

**--"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." (8:34b)**

--verse 34 is a good opportunity to review key points about our salvation in the triumphal spirit of this section.

### --"Christ who died"

--Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

--"the wages of sin is death..." both physical death in this life and death in eternity – "the second death" (Revelation 21:8)

**--God left eternity and died in a moment of time to save us from death in eternity!**

--Hebrews 2:9: "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, **that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.**"

### --"[Christ] is also risen"

--the gospel is not merely theory... Jesus didn't say to the apostles *I'm going to die for your sins and one day I'll see you in heaven...* but three days later He rose from the grave, proving that He conquered death by providing the full payment for our sin... **His resurrection proved that the transaction was complete!**

--if Christ hadn't been raised from the dead then we would still be condemned because of our sins – as Paul told the Corinthians in reply to the false teaching that Christ didn't rise from the grave, "And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!" (Corinthians 15:17-18)

--Romans 4:23-5:5: "Now it was not written for his sake alone [referring to Abraham's salvation by faith... the righteousness of God being credited to him through his faith in God] that it was imputed [imputed = "credited" – NIV] to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed ["credited"] to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, **and was**

**raised because of our justification.** 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 **And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope."**

--"**[Christ] is even at the right hand of God**"

--Christ being at "the right hand of God" speaks of His position of authority... Christ is on the throne, and it is only a matter of time until He brings justice to the earth...

--Hebrews 1:7-13: "But to the Son He [*God the Father*] says: [*the author of Hebrews quotes from Psalm 45:6...*] 'Your throne, O God [*bearing witness to the deity of Christ... God the Father calling the Son "God"*], is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. 9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness...13 ... **Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool**"? [*a figure of speech for His enemies being conquered*]

--"**[Christ] who also makes intercession for us.**"

--one reason that all man-made systems of salvation fail is because all the efforts of mankind are eventually stopped by the grave; but Christ conquered the grave, and salvation through Him is forever secure because He lives forever...

--Hebrews 7:23-25: "Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. 24 **But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood.** [*the spiritual reality that makes it possible for His righteousness to be credited to our account, for us to have peace with God the Father through Him, never ends because He lives forever!*] 25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, **since He always lives to make intercession for them.**"

--"**If God is for us, who can be against us? 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? Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns?" (8:31b-34a)**

--"God is the one who justifies..."

--our entrance to heaven isn't based on anything we do... it is simply based on the righteousness of Christ being "credited" (Romans 4:23) to our account through faith.

--"Who will bring a charge against God's elect?"

--**No doubt Nero's terrible persecution and "charge against God's elect" (blaming Christians for the fire in Roman) was inspired by Satan as an insult to the truth that for Christians all charges are dropped in the courts of heaven!**

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

--Satan not only tried to stir up false charges against the early church to insult the truth that all charges in the courts of heaven had been dropped, but **Satan also tried to take away the rights and property of the early church to insult the truth that God had given them treasures in heaven...**

--Matthew 6:19-21: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves **treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."

--2 Corinthians 4:17-18: "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and **eternal weight of glory**, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

--Paul concludes Romans 8 with the triumphal declaration, "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.' [*referring to persecution*] 37 **Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.** [*the world may hate us, but that doesn't matter because God loves 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." (8:35-39)

**--CLOSING SONG:.**

--Romans 8:34: "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."

**You came from Heaven to earth  
To show the way  
From the earth to the cross  
My debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift Your name on high**

**Lord I lift Your name on high  
Lord I love to sing Your praises  
I'm so glad You're in my life  
I'm so glad You came to save us**