

# Completed

THE FULL PICTURE OF GOD IN  
**ROMANS**

# 8

## DIG DEEPER

### YES, NO & MAYBE

**1.** The rest of the people in this room doubt their salvation more than me.

**2.** Separation anxiety is something that I struggle with in my relationships.

**3.** No one condemns us in heaven.

**4.** There is one typical thing that separates people from God's love.

**5.** Spiritual victory will be considered "complete" when we are finally in heaven.



### READ: Romans 8:31-39 (NIV)

*31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—**how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?** 33 **Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen?** It is God who justifies. 34 **Who then is the one who condemns?** No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:*

*"For your sake we face death all day long;  
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."*

*37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For **I am convinced** that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

### PAUL'S 5 QUESTIONS:

**Δ (Vs. 31) 1: "If God is for us, who can be against us?"** - (εἰ ὁ θεὸς ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν, τίς καθ' ἡμῶν; [ei ho theos huper hēmōn, tis kath' hēmōn?]). This condition of the first phrase carries Paul's challenge to all doubters. There is no one on a par with God.

**🔗 What typically causes us to question whether God is really "for us"?**

**Δ (Vs. 32) 2: "How will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"** - Since God gave the greatest Sacrifice of all, His own Son, He will certainly not hesitate to give believers all other things pertaining to and leading to their ultimate sanctification (2 Peter 1:3).

**🔗 Why do you think that we have historically emphasized Jesus' sacrifice and not God the Father's sacrifice as we consider the plan of salvation? And how has that caused us to have doubts regarding our own salvation?**

**Δ (Vs. 33) 3: "Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen?"** - Paul asks, "Can Christ who is always making intercession on behalf of us, at the same time condemn us?" Even He cannot do both. While interceding on our behalf, He cannot condemn. Satan is the great Accuser of the brethren. It is God that

## DIG DEEPER...CONTINUED

justifies (θεος ὁ δίκαιων [theos ho dikaiōn]). God is the Judge who sets us right according to his plan for justification (3:21-31). The Accuser must face the Judge with his charges.

🔗 What difference does it make that God is not bringing any charges against you, but only the devil is?

▲ (Vs. 34) 4: **"Who is he that condemns?"** - It is a bold accuser who can face God with false charges or with true ones for that matter for we have an "Advocate" at God's Court (1 John 2:1), "who is at the right hand of God," "who also makes intercession for us." Our Advocate paid the debt for our sins with his blood. The score is settled. We are free (8:1).

🔗 How does it make you feel that not only is "no one" condemning you in heaven, but that Jesus is also your defense attorney against the devil's charges?

▲ (Vs. 35) 5: **"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?"** - Separate (χωρισει [chōrisei]). Future active of old verb χωριζω [chorizō] which means "creating space." Can any one put a distance between Christ's love and us? Can any one lead Christ to cease loving us? Such things do happen between husband and wife, unfortunately. Paul changes the figure from "who" (τις [tis]) to "what" (τι [ti]). The items mentioned will not make Christ love us less.

🔗 Despite what Scripture says here, why do you think Christians struggle so much with separation anxiety in their relationships with God?

√ (Vs. 37) **"More than conquerors"** - The phrase, "more than conquerors" is *hupernikaō* (ὑπερνικαω), made up of *nikaō* (νικαω), "to conquer, to carry off the victory, come off victorious," and *huper* (ὑπερ) which means "above," thus, "to come off more than victorious, to gain a surpassing victory."

√ (Vs. 38) **"I am convinced"** - "Convinced" is *peithō* (πειθω), perfect in tense, "I have come through a process of persuasion to a settled conclusion."

🔗 Is this love that creates an inseparable relationship with God (1) our love to God, or (2) God's love to us, or (3) our sense of God's love to us? And what difference does this viewpoint make?

NOTES:

## My Prayers This week:

1. What is causing me to have separation anxiety in my relationship with God?
2. How convinced am I that I can never be separated from God's love?
3. What new aspect of God's character do I understand better this week?

