Romans - The Crown Jewel of Salvation

43 - The Greatest Love of All Rom. 8:31-39

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / February 15, 2015

1. Are <u>PEOPLE</u> against us? Sure—but God grips us tightly and gives to us freely all that we need!

Rom. 8:31 If God is for us, who can be against us?

As Christians, we will always be outnumbered, always a minority in this life & world. Even still, the Bible says it doesn't matter who's against us, because God is *for* us.

| Rom. 8:32 | He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? |
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| 1 John 4:4 | Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. |
| Num. 14:9 | Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them." |
| Psa. 118:6 | The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? |

2. Does the <u>PRINCE OF DARKNESS</u> charge us to condemn us? Yes—but Jesus intercedes for us, and is louder and truer!

| Rom. 8:33 | ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is |
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| | the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who |
| | is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for |
| | US. |

Satan is the "accuser of our brothers" (Rev. 12:10), but our debt has been paid in full, and our advocate is Jesus Christ who intercedes for us.

| Heb. 7:25 | ²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. |
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| 1 John 2:1 | My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. |

Isa. 50:8

He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

3. Do <u>PREDICAMENTS</u> in this life abound? Always—but we are more than conquerors because of His great love for us!

Rom. 8:35,37

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?... ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

The Greek term translated "more than conquerors" literally means "super-conquerors," or "over-conquerors." In other words, we have conquered with success to spare. God has given us all we need to conquer and continue conquering in this life!

| 2 Pet. 1:3 | His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain |
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to life and godliness...

1 Cor. 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through

our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have

peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart;

I have overcome the world."

4. Is God's PROMISE clear? Certainly. Nothing can separate us from God's love!

Rom. 8:38,39

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Small Group Discussion:

- 1. As a child, what object or place gave you a sense of "security"?
- 2. Which of the "security threats" addressed in Rom. 8:31-37 are the most real to you? How is it affecting you now?
 - a. **People** (Rom. 8:31,32)
 - b. Prince of Darkness (Rom. 8:33,34)
 - c. Predicaments (Rom. 8:35-37)

- 3. Rom. 8:32 tells us God will "graciously give us all things" we need to grow to be more like Christ. Which of the following do you sense you're in need of right now?
 - a. Do you need **courage** to take a stand for Christ and what pleases Him?
 - b. Do you need **confidence** to speak to someone about the truth of God's Word?
 - c. Is God calling you to **sacrifice** something to better respond to the truth of God's Word, the mission of His church, and the mercy of God's Son?
- 4. In light of the promise given to us in Rom. 8:38,39, what **one step** will you take this week to demonstrate courage, confidence, and a sacrificial heart?