

THE SECURITY OF YOUR SALVATION (PT 4)

Romans 8:31-39

Introduction: What Are You Afraid of?

I. Are You Afraid of Enemies? (v.31)

- A. The Fear: We Have Many Enemies Who Are “against us”
 - o The early Christians had numerous enemies opposing them
 - o We have many enemies opposing us today
- B. The Solution: Know the Divine Disposition
 - o God is For us!
 - o God is For us!

II. Are You Afraid God Won’t Meet Your Needs? (v.32)

- A. The Fear: We Doubt Whether God Will Really Be There For Us
 - o Sure, God saved me, but what about providing for me?
 - o Do you have the “pull the rug out from under me” view of God?
- B. The Solution: Understand the Divine Logic
 - o Paul argues from the greater to the lesser
 - o God already did the greater thing: “did not spare his own Son”
 - o So why would he not do the lesser, and provide for our needs?

III. Are You Afraid of Being Condemned? (v.33-34)

- A. The Fear: Maybe Somehow I Will Still be Punished for My Sin
 - o Because we see the depth of our sin, we are tempted to doubt our forgiveness
 - o What if someone brings a charge against me that sticks?



B. The Solution: Rest in Divine Justice

- o But isn't God's justice the problem?
- o No, because God has poured out his justice on Christ: "it is God who justifies"
- o Moreover, Christ is alive interceding for us

IV. Are You Afraid of Everything? (v.35-39)

A. The Fear: What about all the various things in the universe that might separate me from God?

B. Solution: Hope in Divine Love

- o Paul lists all the categories of our greatest fears
 - Death
 - Demonic/spiritual powers
 - The Future
- o But God's love surpasses "anything else in all creation"



Discussion Groups

1. How much is fear a struggle in your life today? Which of these areas causes you the most fear?

2. How has this passage helped alleviate the particular fear you are struggling with?

3. In what ways does this passage help you see the importance of theology for practical living?

