

The Times of our Lives

Monday, 2/1/10 – Read Romans 8:31-32

My Observations _____

A Question to Answer: There are three questions in these two verses. The first question is a rhetorical question which is answered when one answers the following two questions. If God is for us, who can prevail against us? If God is for you, who is able to defeat you? Remember that God is the one who sent His own Son to the cross to show that He really is FOR you. And since God did that how could you think that God would not continue to favor you in all things?

Tuesday, 2/2/10 – Read Romans 8:33

My Observations: _____

A Thought to Think About: Since God is the one who justifies you (declares you innocent) then who can make an accusation against you? God justifies us because of His son's death on the cross. This was to be our redemption. Many people forget the graciousness of God and tend to condemn themselves. We have no right to do this since God in Christ has already justified us. That is a hard concept to accept and put into practice in our lives but it is nonetheless true.

Wednesday, 2/3/10 – Read Romans 8:34

My Observations: _____

A Thought to Think About: The question here is almost identical to the one in verse 33. No one can condemn you because Christ Jesus is the one who died and was raised so that you also might die and be raised to a new life. Not only that but Jesus is now at the right hand of God and is your advocate with God. So there is therefore no condemnation to those in Christ Jesus.

Thursday, 2/4/10 – Read Romans 8:35-37

My Observations: _____

A Thought to Think About: Who or what can separate you from the Love of Christ? A wonderful question to think about. The first three items mentioned are affliction, distress, persecution. There are times in our lives when such things happen and we wonder to ourselves, Where is God? How come these things are happening to me. Being Christian does not mean living in paradise. We are still living on this earth and subject to all the vagaries of this existence with other people. The promise in this question is that even in these circumstances, we can be assured of the love of Christ.

Friday, 2/5/10 – Read Romans 8:35-37

My Observations: _____

A Thought to Think About: The question is still the same. Who or what can separate us from the Love of Christ? These next four items are probably not as common as the first three. Rarely are we in the United States hungry or naked in danger of sword (death). But that is not true of many Christians throughout the world. The promise here is that even though we may face these things, the assurance of the love of God in Christ helps us to be more than conquerors. But this is

always an easier thing to say than to do when we are in such circumstances.

Saturday, 2/6/10 – Read Romans 8:38-39

My Observations: _____

A Thought to Think About: These verses do not contain any questions but they contain the assertion by Paul that there is literally nothing in all of creation that can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus. In life and in death we are under the love of God. Neither angels or rulers can separate us from the love of God. Rulers may put Christians in prison and even execute them as they did in the first century but these martyrs endured because of the love of God. We need not fear death because that will not separate us from the love of God.

Sunday, 2/7/10 – Read Romans 8:38-39

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: We do not need to fear the present or the future, high powers, low powers. God through Christ loves us despite either what we do or what is happening around us. If you are sick, God still loves you. If you are facing extensive surgery, God still loves you. If you have lost a loved one, God still loves you. Paul could not think of anything that would be able to separate him from the love of God which is seen in Jesus, can you?

My Faith Journal, January 31, 2010

Romans 8:31-39

What then shall we say to these things?

If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?
Indeed the one who did not spare His own Son,
but delivered Him over for us all,
how will He not also with Him favor us in all things?

Who will make an accusation against the select of God?

God is the one who justifies;

Who is the one condemning?

Christ Jesus is the one having died,
But even more the one having been raised,
who is at the right hand of God,
who also appeals for us.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will affliction
or anguish,
or persecution,
or famine,
or nakedness,
or danger,
or sword?

Just as it is written,

“ON ACCOUNT OF YOU WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG;
WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED.”

But in all these things we more than overcome

through the one having loved us.

For I am persuaded that neither death,

nor life,
nor angels,
nor rulers,
nor things present,
nor things to come,
nor powers,
nor height,
nor depth,
nor any other created thing,

will be able to separate us from the love of God,

which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.