

God's Answer to My Insecurity
Romans 8:31-37

Two Greatest Passages on Eternal Security:

John 10:27-30

Romans 8:31-37

Few times in 26 years of ministry I have needed to counsel someone on Eternal Security
ALMOST WEEKLY - I encounter a believer dealing with INSECURITIES.

SIGNS of INSECURITY

- **Fearful** Christians (Christians paralyzed by fear)
- **Unforgiving.** (We elevate every offense to a **Five Alarm Fire**)
- **Competitive**
- **Ego driven.**
Someone who seems extremely confident may really be masking their insecurity.
Someone who is **PRIDEFUL** may really be masking their insecurity.
- **Critical.** *Illus - "King of Queens." Doug and Carrie go to an Italian restaurant and she sends back her food.*
- **Paranoid.** (We are so self-focused that we think everyone is talking about ME).
- **Self centered**

We are confident that we are **Eternally Secure**, but our everyday lifestyle reflects that we are **desperately insecure**.

Why are we so insecure?

- **It is within our nature.** ANN LANDERS on INSECURITY: *"I've learned plenty-including, most meaningfully, what Leo Rosten had in mind when he said, 'Each of us is a little lonely, deep inside, and cries to be understood.' I have learned how it is with stumbling, tortured people in this world who have nobody to talk to. The fact the column has been a success underscores, for me at least, the central tragedy of our society, the disconnectedness, the insecurity, the fear that bedevils, cripples and paralyzes so many of us. I have learned that financial success, academic achievement, and social or political status open no doors to peace of mind or inner security. We are all wanderers, like sheep, on this planet."* (Saturday Review)
- **We are effected by the insults of others.**
 - *"Nobody can make you feel inferior without your consent."* ~Eleanor Roosevelt
 - *"A successful person is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him or her."* ~David Brinkley
 - **Illus.** *Stanley was feeling insecure and unloved. String of bad luck. Thoughts of*

suicide. He sought out the help of a psychiatrist who told him, “don’t worry Stanley, your luck will change.” Stanley went home, but things kept getting worse, until one day, he was making breakfast. He buttered his toast, but as he went to put it on his plate, it dropped to the floor. Discouraged at his usual clumsiness, Stanley looked down at the floor and was delighted to see that his toast landed “buttered side up!” He picked up the toast and made an appointment with his psychologist. “Look Dr! I dropped my toast and it landed “buttered side up!” To which the Doctor replied, “Stanley, You idiot! You buttered the wrong side!”

– **We do not comprehend our uniqueness as God’s Creation.**

FIVE FATAL SOURCES of SECURITY:

1. **How I Feel.** (Your feelings can be effected very quickly).
We do not even know ourselves.
(Proverbs 16:2) *"All a man’s ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord."*
(Proverbs 28:26) *"He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe."*
2. **What others think of me.** Popular psychology teaches: “SIGNIFICANCE = your performance, + what others think about you.”
3. **What I do for others.** (We seek acceptance on the things we do for others. **The MARTHA Syndrome**).
4. **What I do for God.** (Matthew 7:22-23) *"Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’"*
5. **My Ability and Resources.** (1 Corinthians 1:26-29) *"Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him."*

Romans 8:31-37 speaks directly to the SOURCE of our SECURITY

INTRODUCTION to the passage.

- **FIVE Questions**
- **FIVE Answers**
- The close of the section on SANCTIFICATION
- God is WORKING for YOU
- Every Christian is ETERNALLY LOVED by GOD

GOD'S ANSWER for my INSECURITY

1. Romans 8:31. Can I Make It Through?

- a. A Question about **ENDURANCE** through the difficulties of life.
- b. *"What then shall we say in response to this?"* Rom 8:31
- c. **"These things"** (KJV, NASB)
- d. **What is Paul referring to?**
 - i. **(Romans 7:24-25)** *"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin."*
 - ii. In response to our *struggle with sin*. Romans 8:12
 - iii. In response to our *struggle with suffering*. Romans 8:16
 - iv. In response to our *struggle as mortal men and women*. Romans 8:23
- e. APPLICATION. *I can make it through the difficulties of life because "if God is for me, who can be against me!"*

2. Romans 9:32. Will God Meet my Needs?

- a. A Question about **PROVISION** for the necessities of life.
- b. *"How will he not also, along with Him graciously give us **all things**?"*
- c. Here the focus is clearly on **TEMPORAL** things.
- d. GOD did not **SPARE** his own son!
- e. Same word as in the LXX for **(Genesis 22:12)** *"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Now I know that you fear God, because you **have not withheld** from me your son, your only son."*
- f. APPLICATION: *My basic needs in life will be met, because "God did not spare his own son, but delivered Him up for ME!"*

3. Romans 9:33. Who am I and Why am I Here?

- a. A Question about **IDENTITY** for my purpose in life.
- b. *"Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen?"*
- c. We are his **CHOSEN ONES**
- d. Our identity and purpose are bound in His Creative Purpose
- e. *Illus - Teach your child that they are **UNIQUELY CREATED***
 - i. We teach babies to count their fingers and toes
 - ii. We teach them confidence through accomplishing simple tasks

- iii. Our focus should be their uniqueness before God.
- iv. We try to build their character so they can shine for God.
- v. *People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in their true beauty is revealed only if there is light from within.* ~Elisabeth Kübler-Ross
- f. APPLICATION: My IDENTITY in life is found in the fact that I am CHOSEN and JUSTIFIED by GOD.

4. **Romans 8:34. Am I Really Forgiven?**

- a. A Question about our SECURITY in life
- b. The MINISTRY of CHRIST gives us security!
 - i. DIED
 - ii. RAISED
 - iii. INTERCEDING for you!
- c. Our ETERNAL Security: Christ is our ADVOCATE
- d. Our TEMPORAL Security: CHRIST is our ADVOCATE
- e. (Hebrews 7:25) *"Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them."*
- f. (Hebrews 9:24) *"For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence."*
- g. (1 John 2:1) *"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One."*
- h. APPLICATION: I am SECURE in life because JESUS HIMSELF pleads my case before God!

5. **Romans 8:35-37. Does Anyone Really Love Me?**

- a. A question about our ACCEPTANCE in life.
- b. *"Who shall separate us from the Love of Christ?"*
- c. Before you say *"what a silly thought,"* think about this....
 - i. When was the last time you were angry with someone you love?
 - ii. When was the last time you were hurt by someone you love?
 - iii. When was the last time you recognized a failure in someone you love?
- d. Notice it doesn't say **WHAT shall separate me....**
- e. APPLICATION: Even though **SEVEN DIFFICULTIES are presented, ultimately it is SATAN that seeks to thwart God's plan in our lives. NOT EVEN SATAN himself can separate us from the love of God!**

A Pastor asked a John blind member of his congregation how he lost his sight

“A Chemical explosion,” John said, “at the age of 13.”

“How did that make you feel?” I said.

“Life was over. I felt helpless. I hated God,” John replied. “For the first six months I did nothing to improve my lot in life. I ate all my meals alone. One day my father entered my room and said “John, winter’s coming and the storm windows need to be up - that’s your job. I want those hung by the time I get back this evening or else!”

“Then he turned, walked out of the room, and slammed the door. I got so angry. I thought, who does he think I am? I’m blind! I was so angry I decided to do it. I felt my way to the garage, found the windows, located the necessary tools, found the ladder, all the while muttering under my breath, “I’ll show them. I’ll fall, then they’ll have a blind and paralyzed son!”

John continued, *“I got the windows up. I found out later that never at any moment was my father more than five feet away from my side.”*

You may feel like you are ALL ALONE.

God is right by your side.

Even in the struggles of life, He is FOR US!

Tim Schuler: *“Help me not fo seek for my significance in what I do for YOU, but rather in what you’ve done for ME!”*

Find your security in HIS LOVE and PURPOSE for you.

If you’re sure you are eternally secure, it is a certainty that you are SECURE here too!