

Forever Loved By God
Romans 8:37-38

Conclusion to Romans 8

(From **Ray Pritchard**, sermon “No Condemnation” Rom 8:1-4)

About 40 years ago Dr. **Donald Gray Barnhouse** decided to ask a group of Christian leaders to name their **favorite chapter of the Bible**. So he wrote 20 Christian leaders and asked them this question: *If you were shipwrecked on a desert island, and could not take any book with you except the Bible and you could only take with you one chapter of the Bible, what chapter would you choose?*

Of the **20** Christian leaders, **five** named **Romans 8** as the one chapter they would choose.

An old German commentator named **Philipp Jakob Spener** said that *if the Bible was a ring and the Book of Romans its precious stone, then Romans 8 would be “the sparkling point of the jewel.”* (Sermon by Freddy Fritz, SermonCentral.com)

TODAY: The culmination of Romans 8.

Our **VICTORY**

All of us like to WIN.

Imagine a group of 12 year old boys picking up a game of basketball.

Kobe Bryant steps on the court and says, I want to play on your team!

Christians can face **trials with Joy** and **uncertainty with confidence** when we recognize that **GOD is ON OUR SIDE!**

I. Promise of Continuing Victory

A. The WORD. “*More than conquerors*”

1. ONLY time this word is used in NT...

2. **Combine 2 words.....** like *Ginormous*

a. **Nikko** - from the verb “to conquer” (Nike - Greek goddess of victory)

HUMOR - *I know what those of you from **Millville** are thinking...*

“What a coincidence! The Greek verb “to conquer” and the Greek goddess of victory have the SAME NAME as my running shoes!”

b. Other NT Uses of **Nikko**:

(1) (Luke 11:22) *“But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils.”*

(2) (John 16:33) *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have*

trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.””

- (3) (1 John 5:4-5) *“everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.”*

- c. **Huper** - above, beyond, higher than
(1) *Illus hyperactive children*

3. We are **HYPER - OVERCOMERS**
a. KJV, NIV “more than conquerors”
b. NAS “overwhelmingly conquer”
c. New Century Version “completely victorious”
d. New Living Translation “overwhelming victory”

B. The TENSE.

1. Present active
2. Ongoing
3. *“Through him who loved us” AORIST. A “one time” act of love. This speaks of the CROSS of CHRIST.*
4. *“We have ongoing victory because of the one act of sacrifice through Christ.” (PB)*
 - a. **(Romans 5:18-19)** *“Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.”*
 - b. **(Hebrews 9:25-29)** *“Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.”*

C. The CIRCUMSTANCE

1. “These things”
2. **Rom 8:28** “all things”
3. **Romans 8:31** “What then shall we say in response to this?”
4. **Romans 8:35** “trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger or sword”

- D. The Impact: **We can face trials with joy.**
1. "Christians are not grim stoics who manage to muddle through some how." (Mounce, NAC)
 2. **James 1:2-3** " Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance."

II. **Promise of Continuing Love**

- A. The WORD. "**CONVINCED**"
1. "be convinced, certain" (BAGD)
 2. (2 Timothy 1:12) "That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because *I know whom I have believed, **and am convinced** that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.*"
- B. The TENSE: Perfect passive
1. **Perfect** - a one time act with continuing or lingering results. *ie- Paul experienced something that forever changed his life.*
 2. **Passive** - something that happens **to** a person.
- C. The Circumstance:
- Five Dynamics**
- FIVE REALMS** that describe the extent of our victory
1. Life nor death. **The MORTAL world.**
 - a. (2 Corinthians 5:8-9) "We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it."
 2. Angels, demons, principalities. **The SPIRIT world.**
 - a. (Ephesians 1:21) "far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come."
 - b. (Colossians 1:16) "For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him."
 3. Present nor the future. **TIME**
 4. Nor any powers. **POWER**
 5. Height, depth. **DEGREE**
 6. **Anything else** in all creation
 7. **SEPARATE**: see Romans 8:35 "who shall separate us..."

- D. The SOURCE of the promise - the LOVE of GOD
- E. The IMPACT we can **face uncertainty with confidence.**
 - 1. Information from Pre-Trib conference
 - a. The end of the age. Political, economic dangers
 - b. Financial meltdown....
 - c. Unemployment
- F. Summary
 - 1. No MORTAL
 - 2. No ANGEL
 - 3. No matter how long,
 - 4. No matter how strong
 - 5. No matter how much... That can interrupt God's plan for you or God's love for you.

Fear: False Evidence Appearing Real. ~Author Unknown

A little boy, who was **afraid of the dark**, was told to go to the **unlit back porch** and get the broom. He told his Dad he couldn't because it was so dark and his Dad said, **"Son, don't be afraid, Jesus is out there."** So the little boy went to the back of the house, opened the door, stuck his hand out into the porch and said, **"Jesus, would you give me the broom?"**

Jesus is with you!

God is ON YOUR SIDE.

As a Christians, we are MORE than CONQUERORS!