

5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

How Much Does God Love You?

(Sermon by H.A. Ironside, April 24, 1934)

"37Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:37-39 New King James Version)

This is the inspired answer to the question of Romans 8:35: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" That is, once we have been justified, what power is there, that can separate from the love of Christ? When the apostle says that neither death nor life shall separate, can you think of anything which is neither included in death nor in life? Neither death nor life shall separate! No unseen powers can separate the believer from Christ.

"neither angels, nor principalities, nor powers." These terms are used again and again in the New Testament, particularly in the Epistles, for angelic hosts, good and evil. When our Savior rose from the dead He spoiled principalities and powers, that is, He defeated all the hosts of evil led by Satan; and so we may take it that the angels referred to here are good angels, and the principalities and powers are possible evil angels. But there is nothing that good angels would do and nothing that evil angels can do which will result in the separation of the believer from Christ. And then further he says,

"neither things present nor things to come." Again let me put the question, Can you think of any experience through which a believer might ever go which is neither a thing present nor a thing to come? And the Holy Spirit says that neither things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from the love of Christ.

As though that were not enough, He speaks in a more general way when He says that neither "Height nor depth (nothing in heaven, nothing in hell), nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Questions

- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
- 2 Read Romans 8:35-39 (NIV).

"35Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36As it is written:

'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." - Romans 8:35-39 (NIV)

In all these things (the hardships in Romans 8:35-36), we are more than conquerors through God that loves us. What is Paul's reasoning?

We want to hear from you!

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

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Answer Key

1

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

No one.

"38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39 NIV)

2 Read Romans 8:35-39 (NIV).

In all these things (the hardships in Romans 8:35-36), we are more than conquerors through God that loves us. What is Paul's reasoning?

Paul had an eternal perspective of God's love that will be manifested to him and others throughout all eternity as they share God's glory.