

**EMBRACING GOD'S PERPETUAL LOVE & YOUR GUARANTEE OF FUTURE GLORY Pt. 2
(Romans 8:38-39)**

G. Embracing God's PERPETUAL LOVE and FUTURE GLORY for You. (8:35-39)

1. **Question #6: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? (8:35a)**
2. **Question #7: Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." (8:35b-36)**
3. **The *DVP response* to these hardships when walking by faith is: Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. (8:37)**
4. **The *settled conviction* you can have like the apostle Paul in answer to verse 35 is found in verses 38 & 39 ... "For _____ {perfect, passive, indicative of peitho – I have been & remain completely persuaded} that..."**
 - a. **no *spheres of existence* including " _____, nor _____" ...** Does Paul qualify the kind of death or life? ____ There are six suicides recorded in the Bible in which two of them were committed by professed believers—King Saul (1 Sam. 31:3-6), and Ahithophel (2 Sam. 17), while four suicides were committed by those whose faith we are uncertain of except for Judas 27:4-5) who we know never believed (John 6:67-71) & was never saved (John 13:10-11). They were Abimelech (Judg. 9:54), Zimri (1 Kings 16:18), and Saul's armor bearer (1 Sam. 31:5). Suicide is sin and selfish, thinking primarily of oneself vs the pain you leave with others, involving self-murder {Deut. 5:17}. Suicide wrongfully takes the authority that only belongs to God over life (Ps. 31:15; Heb. 9:27). In Scripture, there were believers who felt deep loneliness, abandonment & despair but instead of committing suicide they turned to the Lord and/or let God encourage them such as Solomon (Ecc. 2:17), Elijah (1 Kings 19:3), Jonah (Jon. 4:8) etc. Instead of death separating the believer from God and His love, it actually is the door into God's presence – 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:21, 23} and the fear of death is gone – Heb. 2:14.
 - b. **no *supernatural powers* including " _____, nor _____, nor _____" ...**
Are Satan and his demons included in this?
 - c. **no *present or future possibilities/realities* such as " _____, nor _____" ...**
What might this involve?
 - d. **no *extremes of location/space* including " _____, nor _____" ...** Can a believer escape from God's love?
 - e. **no *created being* ... "nor any other " _____,"** Who does this include?
5. **The *triumphant conclusion* is that no one and nothing (including yourself) "shall be able {under any conditions or circumstances} to _____ us {as believers in Christ} from the _____ which is _____ our Lord."**

- Does God want you to have the absolute assurance of eternal salvation?

#1: The absolute assurance of eternal salvation is based on _____, never upon your good works, faithfulness, fruit, etc. (1 Cor. 15:33-4; Eph. 2:8-9)

#2: The absolute assurance of eternal salvation is based on the unfailing and sure _____. (John 3:16, 5:24, 6:35-40, 47; 10:27-30, 11:25-26; 1 John 2:12, 25, 3:1-2; 5:9-13)

- Examples of assurance: Gen.15:6; Ps. 23:6; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:21-23; Eph. 2:8-10; Phil. 3:20-21

- Why do people lack the absolute assurance of eternal salvation?

#1: because they are _____. (John 5:39-40, 45; Matt. 7:21-23)

#2: because they go by their _____ instead of _____ in God's promises. (1 John 5:13)

#3: because they fail to understand the _____ of salvation. (1 Cor. 2:14-3:4)

#4: because they seek assurance by their _____ and _____ instead of by Christ's finished work. (1 Cor. 3:11-15)

#5: because they succumb to the _____. (Eph. 6:10-11, 17)

#6: because they fail to grow and get established due to _____. (2 Pet.1:8-10)

#7: because they think that they need to know the _____ of their salvation. (2 Timothy 1:12)

#8: because they reject _____ or fall prey to _____, either Calvinism or Arminianism. (2 Cor. 13:5; 1 John)

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? -- unless indeed you are disqualified.

The book of 1 John: tests of salvation or evidences of fellowship with God?

- How about you?