

More Than Conquerors

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Rom 8:35-39 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- I. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
 - A. The point of this passage is to prove that there is nothing or no one who can separate us from the love of Christ.
 - 1. The love of Christ being both our love for Him, AND his love for us.
 - 2. In all these things we find our help, comfort, and hope in Him.
 - 3. What is striking is that many, if not most, professing Christians are knocked out and turned away from Christ by any one of these things even in very small doses, and in reality they are not overcomers at all.
 - B. Shall TRIBULATION? — Trouble or pressure from without. Trouble caused by outside forces.
 - C. Shall DISTRESS? — Great anxiety and distress of mind; such as arises when a man knows not where to turn or what to do for relief; a very narrow place.
 - D. Shall PERSECUTION? — Harassment and active opposition that seeks to intimidate, silence, punish, or even to kill us.
 - E. Shall FAMINE? — A famine is an extreme shortage of food; a general want of provisions sufficient to sustain life.
 - 1. For the Christian this can be applied to a want of spiritual meat.
 - F. Shall NAKEDNESS? — Open, discovered, to strip.
 - 1. Unarmed; defenseless; open; exposed; having no means of defense or protection against an enemy's attack, or against other injury.
 - 2. Open to view; not concealed; manifest. Hebrews 4.
 - 3. Destitute of worldly goods. Job 1.
 - 4. Exposed to shame and disgrace, for example, by the deeds of fellow Christians. Exodus 32.
 - G. Shall PERIL? – danger of any kind.
 - H. Shall the SWORD? – an instrument of death; under the threat of even death.
 - I. Shall even DEATH? That state of a being, animal or vegetable, but more particularly of an animal, in which there is a total and PERMANENT cessation of all the vital functions, when the organs have not only ceased to act, but have lost the susceptibility of renewed action. Thus the cessation of respiration and circulation in an animal may not be death, for during hibernation some animals become entirely torpid, and some animals and vegetables may be subjected to a fixed state by frost, but being capable of revived activity, they are not dead.
 - J. Shall LIFE, or living in this world? The present state of existence; the time from birth to death. In man, that state of being in which the soul and body are united.
 - K. Shall PRINCIPALITIES? Supernatural spiritual powers, whether good or evil. Any kind of person of power or position.

L. NOR things present, NOR things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature!

II. What kind of victory does the true Christian accomplish?

- A. NOT just barely a victory; NOT just a draw; NOT just temporary relief.
- B. To conquer is to subdue, to overcome – through Christ we do more than that.
- C. MORE THAN CONQUERORS is to vanquish and beyond, i.e. gain a decisive victory: – more than conquer.
- D. NOT EVEN CLOSE TO LOSING!

John 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

III. Who overcomes? Who are these mighty conquerors?

1 John 4:4 "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

1 John 5:4 "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

1 John 5:5 "Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

IV. Those who do not overcome simply do not know the love of Christ.

- A. There is one thing that can separate a person from the love of Christ and that is SIN.
- B. No one has ever turned away from the love of Christ because they were mistreated by God.
 - 1. Sin is the only reason anyone would turn away from God.

2 Pet 2:20 "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning."

Hebrews 10:26-27 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

C. But the love of Christ is the solution for that, also.

Eph 3:19 "And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

Gal 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

1 John 4:9-11 "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **Beloved, if God so loved us**, we ought also to love one another."

