The Best Chapter in the Bible #10

Romans 8:31-32 Derek Thomas

Review - What then shall we say to "these things"? What things? - That we are justified and therefore not condemned. There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus; that we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; that we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit; that He intercedes on our behalf; that even in our groans that cannot be expressed in words. There is this ministry of the Holy Spirit that fixes our prayers on the way up; that God in His sovereign, omnipotent, overruling providence insures a divine governance of <u>all things</u> so that everything works together for the good of those that love Him. If all of that is true, what shall we say? What shall we then say to "these things"?

Outline:

How can I know for sure that God is for us?

- 1. God spared not his own son
- 2. God gave up his Son for the elect
- 3. God could not express any stronger love for us

Questions:

- 1. When Paul wrote v.31, he could have been referring to Ps. 56. How do these verses impact you? **Psalm 56:8-11** You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book? ⁹ Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call. This I know, that God is for me. ¹⁰ In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise, ¹¹ in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?
- 2. **2 Chronicles 32:7-8** "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him, for there are more with us than with him. ⁸ With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles." And the people took confidence from the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

 How does this help a believer living in Fresno/Clovis in 2019? Give examples from your life.
- 3. Judas, the priests and the Jews "delivered up" Jesus to be crucified for all who believe. The Father refused to spare Jesus, even though Jesus pleaded with the Father to be spared, but instead the Father delivered him up ("gave him up **for us all**"). What is the logic that Paul is using here?
- 4. This quote can sound startling, but we need to understand it. Read it and digest it together. "Who killed Him? It wasn't Judas out of greed. It wasn't the Jews out of envy. It was His Father out of love. The Father killed Him. It was the Father who put Him to death." Derek Thomas
- 5. We have the tendency to be exasperated with our sin even falsely imagining that God probably couldn't love us anymore. How does this phrase from an old hymn (*Grace that is greater than all our sin*) inform our exasperation?

Romans 8:31-32 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?