Romans 8:35-39 Inseparable

What can separate us from the love of God? Absolutely nothing! Yet we need to know it, remember it, apply it, and remain in it if we want to experience the full blessings of God's love.

Topic- The Love of God (whatever is closest)

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*Weather Vane on Barn

*Barth- 1962 Tour

4 QUESTIONS WITH 4 ASSURANCES
-No Opposition (v31)
-No Deprivation (v32)
-No Accusation (v33)
-No Condemnation (v34)
-No Separation (v35-39)

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“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”

“Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?”

“Tribulation” = thlipsis (θλῖψις); pressure, affliction, oppression; the picture is of being squeezed or pressed by circumstances.

“Distress” = stenochōria (στενοχωρία); narrowness, confinement, anguish; literally the idea of being in a tight place with little room to move.

“Persecution” = diōgmos (διωγμός); persecution, pursuit, harassment; from the idea of being chased or pursued with hostility.

2 Corinthians 11:24-25 — From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned…

“Famine” = limos (λιμός); hunger, famine, severe lack of food; serious deprivation rather than merely missing a meal.

“Nakedness” = gymnotēs (γυμνότης); nakedness, lack of adequate clothing, exposure; can carry the idea of destitution and vulnerability.

2 Corinthians 11:27 — in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—

“Peril” = kindynos (κίνδυνος); danger, hazard, risk; genuine exposure to harm.

2 Corinthians 11:26 — in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

“Sword” = machaira (μάχαιρα); a short sword / large knife; a weapon of execution.

Decollatio

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As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” (Psalm 44:22)

For Your sake

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH
-April 2026 — Congo: 60 Christians massacred after rejecting Islamic State demands.
-June 2026 — Nigeria: 28 Christians killed, including a pastor.
-July 2026 — Somaliland: Sharif Ali, 42. He reportedly came to faith in Christ in April 2026. By July 5, he was poisoned by Muslim family members and died soon afterward.
-August 2026 — Uganda: 52-year-old man accepted Christ on June 1, 2026. When he returned home on August 9, his adult Muslim sons confronted him for leaving Islam and beat him severely enough that he was hospitalized.
-October 2026 — 20-year-old Milad Malak

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2 Timothy 3:12 — Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Joshua & Deuteronomy

Joshua 1:9 — “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

Deuteronomy 31:6 — “Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.”

Deuteronomy 31:23 — Then He inaugurated Joshua the son of Nun, and said, “Be strong and of good courage; for you shall bring the children of Israel into the land of which I swore to them, and I will be with you.”

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“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

Philippians 4:11-13 — Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:
-I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.
-I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

“I can do” = ischyō(ἰσχύω); to be strong- in body, to be robust, to be in sound health, to have power

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“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

“more than conquerors” = hypernikaō(ὑπερνικάω)1x; lit. hyper(above, beyond, exceedingly) + nikaō (to conquer, overcome, or be victorious)

*Chuck- It isn't victory at the end of the battle when the enemy has been destroyed, but it's victory in the battle when you're in the heat of things…

*end of book

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Romans 8:38-39 — 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 created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Jude 1:21 — keep yourselves in the love of God

He doesn't say keep yourself loveable

The stress of remaining “loveable”

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God's love is like the sun

Did you know that sunglasses don't change the sun?

Did you know that an umbrella doesn't change the sun?

Did you know that the sun is still shining at nighttime?

The sun is always shining, with a power so great that it would blind you if you tried to take it all in, but many things can change how we experience it.

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The Prodigal Son
(Luke 15)

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How do we keep ourselves in the love of God?
-Faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
-Biblical faith is not wishful thinking. It has substance. It has evidence. It is trusting what God has promised, even when we cannot yet see how He will accomplish it, because God has proven Himself faithful.

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Abraham was a “more than a conqueror” by faith.

Hebrews 11:17 & 19 — By faith Abraham… offered up Isaac… concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead…

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For I am persuaded that [nothing] shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.