

September 8 & 9, 2018

GOD IS FOR US

Romans 8:31 *What, then, shall we say in response to this? 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, along with him, graciously give us all things?*

33 *Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.*

35 *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?*

36 *As it is written:*

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

37 *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 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.*

1. Because "God is for us," we have been justified.

Justification is God declaring sinful people to be righteous by faith in Jesus alone.

First, Paul presented the problem;

Romans 3:10 *There is no one righteous, not even one.*

Romans 3:23 *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

then God's solution.

Romans 5:8 *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

This is called the substitutionary atonement.

This was God's promise: Isaiah 53

53:4 *Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.*

5 *But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

6 *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

This was Christ's purpose.

Matthew 20:28 *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

This is our payment.