

Romans 8:35-36 (NASB)

35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED."

"Is this

- (1) our love to Christ, or***
- (2) Christ's love to us, or***
- (3) our sense of Christ's love to us?"***

"I am Christ's: a sheep for slaughter." Newell

It is evident that those whose description is “killed all the day long” “sheep for slaughter” will **never** become more than conquerors, or conquerors at all, through moral influence,” human “merits,” “the ballot box,” “the betterment of humanity,” “interracial understanding”! **No**, not with Satan prince and god, here! And he will be such until cast into the abyss (Rev. 20) at Christ’s coming. Newell

37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

Three things in this verse:

- 1. We are conquerors** in every situation.
- 2. We are more than conquerors in every situation.**
- 3. It is totally through the Lord Jesus** Who loves us, and not through human energy of any kind, that we are more than conquerors.

What does a “*More than Conqueror*” *experience*?

1. He never loses.
2. He knows that divine power is for him in any battle.
3. He is absolutely confident that this limitless divine power will be given to him in any future urgent situation.
4. He knows that he gets to divide the spoils after every victory.

The phrase, "***more than conquerors***" is ***hupernikaō***, made up of ***nikaō***, "to conquer, to carry off the victory, come off victorious," and ***huper*** which means "above, over the top" thus, "to come off more than victorious, to gain a surpassing victory."

Isaiah 53:12 (NASB)

Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death. And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many And interceded for the transgressors.

38 *For I am convinced* that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

39 *nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

"I am persuaded or convinced" is *peithō*, perfect tense, "I have come through a process of persuasion to a settled conclusion."

2 Timothy 1:12 (NASB) ¹² *For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.*

38 For I am convinced that neither *death, nor life*, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

Newell says: How we do **misquote** this verse, putting it according to natural thought, *“neither life nor death.”*

Put in the right order-

- ❑ But God says, *neither death nor life.*
- ❑ **To the instructed believer, the fear of death is gone**
Christ has been to death and back out of it:

Hebrews 2:14-15

14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, *that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,* 15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.



Which is more difficult to navigate, Life or death?

- Life! Life is so much more difficult than death!
- —life with its burdens, its bitternesses, its disappointments, its uncertainties; often with its physical miseries, —

But just as death cannot separate us from this unchangeable love of God in Christ, neither can any circumstances of life do it!

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

"a messenger" (from *angellō*, "to deliver a message"), sent whether by God or by man or by Satan, Vine's

- Whether we speak of the elect angels—the angels of God's power, in the presence of whom the saints have felt overwhelmed by their utter unworthiness (as *Daniel, Dan 10:8-17*); or
- Whether it be the malicious angels, who chose Satan as captain, and are a unity with him in evil;—
- Wuest says Angels can only mean fallen angels, of whom Satan is one.**
- Angels are always spoken of in the masculine gender, the feminine form of the word does not occur."* Vine's
- No angels can separate us from that love of God which is fixed forever in Christ.**

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

The revelation that there are creatures (beyond nature or worldly or terrestrial) who under divine permission are exercising transcendental authority is Important.

Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV) ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.)

- ❑ These celestial creatures are now exercising their power in conflict with the saints on earth
- ❑ The first word, (**archai**) “**principalities**” (ἀρχή) conveys the fact of their energy, meaning one in high position in the unseen world.
- ❑ The second word, “**powers,**” in **Eph. 6:12**, (**exousia**), is directly connected with “**principalities,**” being a word indicative of authority, rather than energy.

*(WEY) ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither the **lower ranks of evil angels nor the higher**, neither things present nor things future, nor the forces of nature,*

*(Ephesians 2:2 (NKJV) ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the **prince of the power of the air, the spirit** who now works in the sons of disobedience.*

But with none of them have we anything to do, for whatever they are, **they cannot separate us from God's love in Christ** and the Apostle Paul states that among all the opposing forces **not even the principalities and powers** are "*able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"
LSC

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

In Job's case, Satan dealt in "things present"—and they were as bad as an insane fallen powerful angel could make them. But they did not separate him from God's love,

Job 42:1-6 (NASB) ¹ Then Job answered the LORD and said, ² "I know that You can do all things, And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted. ³ 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' "Therefore, I have declared that which I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know." ⁴ 'Hear, now, and I will speak; I will ask You, and You instruct me.' ⁵ "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear; But now my eye sees You;⁶ Therefore I retract, And I repent in dust and ashes."

"Things are not mentioned, not even sins, for they have passed away."

Bengel

Hebrews 10:22-24 (NASB)

22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds.

If a Christian Brother who teaches in a church, steals from people and is obviously a carnal Christian in his own words no less, shouldn't he feel guilty about his ongoing sin(s). To drive him to repentance? Can he enter in?

When a believer sins, he loses fellowship with the Lord but not his position or standing. My position in the Holies is based on what Christ did and allows me access into the presence of God without guilt.

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

In the cases of David and Elijah, Satan dealt in “futures”:

- ❑ David said, **“I shall now one day perish by the hand of Saul.”** Yet shortly he sat on the throne!
- ❑ And Jezebel threatened, **“I will make your life as the life of one of them [the slain prophets] by tomorrow about this time.”**
- ❑ When Elijah saw that, **“he arose, and went for his life.”** Yet God took him up by a chariot of fire into heaven!

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

- ❑ The word translated “**powers**” here is **dunamis**, energy: and has reference to those uncanny and horrible workings of Satan and his host .
- ❑ “**Powers**,” in Eph. 6:12, (**exousia**), is directly connected with “*principalities*,” being a word indicative of authority, rather than energy.
- ❑ Used in *Acts 8:10* concerning Simon the Magician: “***They said, This man is that power (dunamis) of God which is called Great.***”

People asked William Newell, “**Do you believe there is anything in spiritism?**” He said, “I certainly do—the devil is in it!”

- But none of these “powers” can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
- There is no such thing as “**luck.**” Let us cease to dishonor God by mentioning it! “**God works all things after the counsel of His will.**”
- I have seen professing Christians “**knock on wood**” if making some confident statement! (I am ashamed as I write this.)

Let us be “persuaded” of the love which God, without cause in us, is unchangeable toward us in Christ Jesus our Lord. No matter how real, insidious, terrifying these demon powers may be, we are safe in Christ!

If you want to be free from superstition and fears, do as James directs: “**Ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall both live and do this or that.**” That brings God in!

Newell

³⁹ *nor **height**, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

height,— *hypsōma*

(a) of "a height," as a mountain or anything definitely termed a "height," [Rom. 8:39](#) (metaphorically);

(b) of "a high thing" lifted up as a barrier or in antagonistic exaltation, **2 Corinthians 10:5 (NASB)⁵ *We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.*** Vine's

The astronomers would frighten us with their figures of the vastness of the universe. But Christ has passed through all the heavens and is at the right hand of God! And God has loved us in Christ—there is no separation from that love.

39 nor height, nor **depth**, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

“depth”—βάθος, *bathos*

- (a) naturally, in [Matt. 13:5](#), "deepness;" [Mark 4:5](#), "depth, of dirt" "deepness;"; of "deep" water [Luke 5:4](#); [Rom. 8:39](#) (contrasted with *hypsōma*, "height");
- (b) metaphorically,

- ❑ **Romans 11:33 (NASB) ³³ *Oh, the **depth** of the riches both of the **wisdom and knowledge of God!** How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!***
- ❑ **1 Corinthians 2:10 (NASB) ¹⁰ *For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even **the depths of God.*****
- ❑ **Ephesians 3:18-19 (NASB) ¹⁸ *may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and **depth**,* ¹⁹ *and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.* Vine's**

Christ descended into “*the lower parts of the earth,*” into “*the abyss*” at “*the heart of the earth*” (Eph. 4:9; Rom 10:7; Matt. 12:40).

Moreover, He has said that His Church would not enter the gates of Hades (Matt. 16:18). And we won't!

But even if God had arranged that they should, Christ says to John, “*Fear not; I am the First and the Last, and the Living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades!*”

No “depth” can separate us from God's love in Christ.

³⁹ *nor height, nor depth, nor **any other created thing**, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Nor any other created thing—"Creature" is "created thing."

There! That should eliminate all our fears, no matter what they might be. Newell

When the **Creator** says, "*any other created thing*" He as the Creator hasn't left anything that He created out.

No created thing shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to *separate* us from the love of God, which is *in Christ Jesus our Lord*.

“Separate”- chorizo-To place room between.

All requirements of law, ritual, or even the thought of “I must be better” place room between the believer and Christ and His love.

Notice that this love of God is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Why God set His love upon us, we cannot tell.
- Why He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, connecting our destiny eternally with Christ His beloved Son, we cannot tell.
- However- *“Whatsoever Jehovah does, it shall be forever.”* We must therefore hold in mind this fact, *that God has loved us even as He loved Christ (John 17:26): because He loved us in Him.*

It is not humility to doubt God's elect.

Romans has shown us the way to be certain!

❑ Do not try to assure your heart that you are one of God's loved elect.

❑ If you are troubled with doubts, go and sit down on the sinner's seat, and say,

“God declares righteous the ungodly who trust Him. I renounce all thoughts of my own righteousness, and as a sinner I trust the God who raised Christ from the dead,—who was delivered up for my trespasses.”

❑ Believers are those who have received Jesus Christ whom God in His great love gave to the world, and they by Divine grace welcomed this only begotten Son.

Therefore, the love of God in Christ Jesus is forever ours.

Newell

In [Ephesians 3](#). The apostle's prayer here is not prior to the believer being in heaven, but on his reaching this wonderful standing in consequence of Christ being there; and the result is the desire that he may supersede everything.

It is exactly like Jacob having come to Bethel -- he was not confirmed in the name of Israel until he got there; [so, until you come to heaven you will not be able to enter into the wondrous fact of what Christ is to you.](#)

He prays ¹⁷ *so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,* ¹⁸ *may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth.*

It is not like [the first chapter, that you "may know what is the hope of his calling",](#) [but that you may be able to enter into the fulness of that scene into which wisdom has brought you, and](#) ¹⁹ *and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.* Christ is that. He asks that you may get a deeper sense of what Christ is to you. J. B. Stoney