

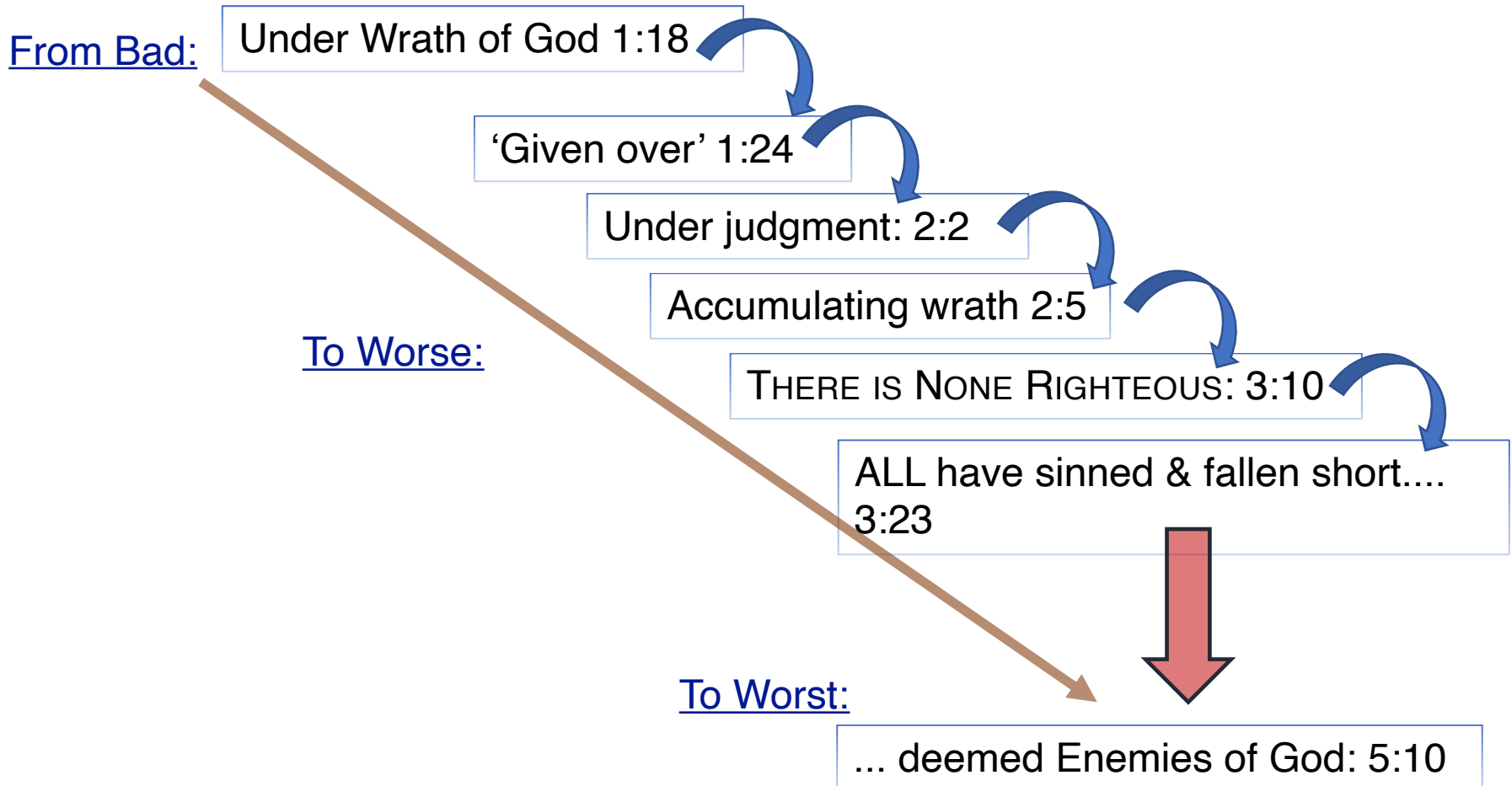
# GOD is Unequivocally on our Side

Romans 8: 33,34



# PROGRESSION OF: the *'Provision of God'* in Salvation: ROMANS 1 – ROMANS 8

We start here in Romans:





**NOW: NO SEPARATION** (from the love of & the Person of God & the L.J.C.): 8:39

Unbelievable !!!:

Made to overwhelming conquer: 8:37

God is now for us: 8:31

**CONFORMED:** 8:29

**Called:** 8:28

All things working together for good: 8:28

**GLORIFIED:** 8:17

Made heirs: 8:17

**ADOPTED:** 8:15

No Condemnation: 8:1

**SET FREE:** 7:24-25; 8:2

Given His Life: 6:4

**IDENTIFIED:** 6:3-6

Saved by His Life: 5:10 b.

Reconciled: 5:10

God makes peace with us: 5:1

**JUSTIFIED** by faith.... 5:1

Great!:

Start again here:

... deemed Enemies of God: 5:10

Greater still !:

Greater:

PROGRESSION OF: the  
*'Provision of God'* in  
Salvation:  
ROMANS 1 – ROMANS 8



33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies;

34: who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

ROMANS 8:

## I. The Rhetorical Questions of Romans:

Why does Paul use the rhetorical questions here?

Merriam Webster and others give the definition of a rhetorical question as:

‘a question asked for dramatic effect, not expecting an answer, but to start a dialogue’ ....

..... ‘a question asked to elicit a response or information’

..... ‘used for dramatic effect’

Paul uses this Aristotelian method to bring a dramatic magnification of the previous stated facts given in 6, end of Chap. 7 & Romans 8- a brief refresher:



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who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

ROMANS 8:

Paul has established:

we have no condemnation- we are set free from the Sin Nature— we live by the H.S.  
— we have life in Christ Jesus — we have the adoption as sons — we are now the  
children of God — we yearn for our glorification with Him — we have the H.S.'s  
interceding — we are foreknown, predestined, chosen, elected, justified — are heirs —  
conformed to His image — and once again, we have His glory.

Therefore, Paul asks: in view of THESE FACTS:

- 1 v.31 What then shall we say to these things?
- 2 If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?
- 3 v.32 ..... how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?
- 4 v.33 **Who** will bring a charge against God's elect? .....
- 5 v.34 **who** is the one who condemns? .....
- 6 v.35 **Who** will separate us from the love of Christ? .....
- 7 Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

*.. And so: the apostle interrogates and challenges all adversaries in  
presence of the rich and varied provisions of redemption. (Wm. Kelly)*



## II. As an Exercise: Let's try to answer: 'WHO' is able to bring a Charge against, or Condemn?

The only 'Who'? I could think of is: SATAN, perhaps he is able?...

### Satan ever accuses:

- 1. accuses Job: 1:9-10, 2:5:** *'...you have put a hedge about him' .. "However, put forth Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh; he will curse You to Your face."*
- 2. accuses Israel through a high priest, Joshua- Zec. 3:1 -**  
*Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him.*
- 3. accuses all of us, day and night: Rev 12:10 –** *'.... the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.'*

**But:** God ever defends-      I. Job              II. Israel              III. Believers

**1. Defends Job:** Job 1:8: *God says, " For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil." & 2:3 .... " And he still holds fast his integrity, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause."*

## II. As an Exercise: Let's try to answer: 'WHO' is able to bring a Charge against, or Condemn?



**2. God defends Israel** - Zec. 3:2: *The LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! Indeed, the LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”..... Yet even more: God takes away their iniquities: “Remove the filthy garments from him.” Again he said to him, “See, I have taken your iniquity away from you and will clothe you with festal robes.” (v. 4)*

**3. God defends all of us believers** - Rom. 8:33,34 & 37: *‘God is the One who justifies’..... And Christ Jesus is the One who died, yes, was raised and now intercedes for us .... ‘But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him’*

### **Finally, and powerfully:**

**4. The woman caught in the very act of adultery:** John 8: 1-11: the accusation is: *“Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. ... “Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?”* **and the defense:** *But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground. .... He straightened up, and said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.”*

**Jesus’ Closing Argument:** Jesus said to her, *“Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?”* She said, *“No one, Lord.”* And Jesus said, *“I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more.”*



33 (a) **Who will bring a charge against God's elect?** *God is the one who justifies;* 34: (a) **who is the one who condemns?** *Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.*

### III. Are there any 'Whos' at all who can Step up to the Plate?

A parallel line in the O.T. demonstrates **God's viewpoint** of whether there exists any one to challenge Him or His sovereignty -

Jer 49:19:

..... " For **who is like Me**, and **who will summon Me into court?** And **who then is the shepherd who can stand against Me?**"

Isa 44: 6, 7 & 8. *(in a general Blessing towards His chosen Israel):*

*"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:*

***'I am the first and I am the last,  
And there is no God besides Me.***





33 (a) **Who will bring a charge against God's elect?** *God is the one who justifies;* 34: (a) **who is the one who condemns?** *Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.*

### III. Are there any 'Whos' at all who can Step up to the Plate?

**'Who is like Me?** Let him proclaim and declare it; Yes, let him recount it to Me in order, (. . . .) ***Is there any God besides Me, Or is there any other Rock?*** (Isa. 44: 6, 7, 8) contin....

***I know of none.***

**Observation:** God, in a similar fashion has actually brought on all challengers to his dominion, rule and authority. All the rulers, powers, principalities and authorities heard Him; no one stepped up. So: if He was 'for' Job, Israel, the adulteress in John 8, many other O.T. men and women – ***How much more is He for His Beloved Son's heavenly bride?***

**Conclusion to this Query:** There is no one— no one ever can bring a charge or condemn any of His chosen-out ones. Whether OT: Job, Israel.... The woman in John 8 or His Body of believers, the Church— His Moral Glory & Character demand it.



33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? (b.) **God is the one who justifies;**

#### IV. The "b" side of Verse 33's Defense Statement -

(1. ) God is both the 'just' and the 'justifier' of His elect:

Rom 3:26: *for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that **He would be just and the justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus*

because:

3:24 - *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:*

And:

3:28 - *For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.*

God is 'Just': (adjective): God's qualitative, intrinsic essence is 'just'. He is ***Holy-Righteous-Just***

And is the One who justifies (present, active: verb):

- We have observed from before, there are no true prosecuting attorneys that can bring any charge or level any condemnation against us –

Standing in our place as Defendant is Jesus Christ: The Just – He also is our Defender; He is our Intercessory Counsel and Advocate

With the Judge and Justifier one and the same: God Himself



34: *who is the one who condemns?* (b.) **Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God,** (c.) *who also intercedes for us.*

## V. The "b" side of Verse 34's Defense Statement -

16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18 He who believes in Him is not judged; (OUR TOPIC TODAY IN ROM. 8:33,34) he who does not believe has been judged already (addressed in ROM. 1:18 – 2:16), because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God

- All is measured by God's gift of His own Son- a bold answer to every doubt of both the reality of His love and the extent to which He loves us.
- His Son: **the measureless measure of His love for us**, *'The enemy had better beware of meddling with God's elect'*
- God is for us: **superior to all that would hurt us** and leads to the Questions: 'Who dare be against us?' 'Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?' - 'Who is the one condemning?' [Wm. Kelly: Notes on the Epistle of Romans]



34: *who is the one who condemns? (b.) Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, (c.)* **who also intercedes for us.**

## VI. Christ's Intercessory Ministry -

And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. **When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high** – [Heb. 1:3]

- ⇒ Jesus lives at the right hand of God for us.
- ⇒ His active intervention on our behalf never ceases for a single moment.
- ⇒ He has passed through the heavens, in virtue of accomplished atonement, and there He ever carries on His perfect advocacy for us before our God.
- ⇒ He is there as our Subsisting Righteousness [I Cor 1:30], to maintain us ever in the divine integrity of the position and relationship into which His atoning death has introduced us.
- ⇒ **"He ever lives to make intercession for us"; and because He ever lives, "He is able to save to the uttermost" — right through to the very end — "them that come to God by Him."**
- ⇒ **He lives to keep us always right in heaven, and to set us right when we go wrong upon earth. He is the divine and indissoluble link between our souls and God.** [C.H. Mackintosh; excerpt from 'The All-Sufficiency of Christ' Part 3; The Present Work of Christ for us]



34: *who is the one who condemns? (b.) Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, (c.)* **who also intercedes for us.**

## VI. Christ's Intercessory Ministry -

*Finally:*

24 but Jesus, on the other hand, **because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. 25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.**  
26 **For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;** – [Heb. 7:24-26]

- ⇒ ***“I do not find that it is adequately apprehended (by saints) that the benefit conferred by the Father is far beyond the need of the sinner. (Romans 8 in a nutshell!)*** You cannot measure the benefit by the need [JBS-5-21 NBTHH-MJStanford]
- ⇒ “The Lord Jesus Christ confirms us (guarantees our vindication) to the end-Purpose: so that He will be our Guarantor against all accusation or indictment, and we will be found guiltless and irreproachable.” [H.Molloy, notes on 7-3 N.B.T.H.H. MJStanford]