



12/10/17

Alliancelife.church  
**Celebrate Christmas**  
*Celebrate the Love of Christmas*

### Introduction:



I just love Christmas! I love the lights, the music, the celebrations, the carols, Christmas Eve Candlelight service, the Christmas tree, and giving gifts!

I love to give gifts to my family and friends. I will usually buy something for one of my kids and say "I know something you don't know!" They know, I have found that perfect something for them! God knew something we didn't know long before we came along. He knew we would need a gift.

The most famous bible verse around the world:

### John 3:16 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

- God loved the world (people)
- He gave his only Son
- Eternal life is ours to have!

### God loves us!

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### God's Everlasting Love

#### Romans 8:31-39 (ESV)

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

<sup>32</sup> **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?

<sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? **It is God who justifies.**

<sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? **Christ Jesus is the one who died**—more than that, **who was raised**—**who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.**

<sup>35</sup> **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

<sup>36</sup> As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

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

<sup>38</sup> For **I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,**

<sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

v. 31 – If God is for us

- What shall we say to these things  
(The hardship of the believer – "*the suffering of this present age*")
- If God is for us
  - When God stands for us
  - God's love is absolute!
  - God is our assurance!
- Who can be against us
  - The correct answer is no one

v. 32 – He who did not spare His own Son

- He who did not spare His own Son
  - He did not withhold Jesus
  - Knowing Jesus is our hope
- But gave Him up for us all
  - The wrath of the cross
- How will He not also with Him graciously give us all things
  - The blessings of God
  - He is the Rewarder

v. 33 – Who shall bring a charge

- Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?
- It is God who justifies

v. 34 – Who is to condemn

- Who is to condemn
- Christ Jesus is the one who died
- More than that, who was raised
- Who is at the right hand of God
- Who indeed is interceding for us

v. 35 – Who shall separate us from the love of Christ

- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ:
  - ⇒ Shall Tribulation: to undergo struggle, trials, temptation, suffering, or affliction.
  - ⇒ Distress: to suffer anguish, trouble, strain, agony; not knowing which way to turn or what to do.
  - ⇒ Persecution: to be abused, mocked, ridiculed, shamed, mistreated, ignored, neglected, harassed, attacked, or injured.
  - ⇒ Famine: to have no food, to be starving and have no way to secure food.
  - ⇒ Nakedness: to be stripped of all clothes and earthly comforts; to be bare, having all earthly possessions taken away.
  - ⇒ Danger: to be exposed to the most severe risks; to be confronted with the most terrible dangers to one's body, mind, soul, property, family, and loved ones.
  - ⇒ Sword: to be killed; to suffer martyrdom.<sup>1</sup>

v. 36 – As it is written

- For Your sake – Living for God
- We are being killed all the day long
- We are regarded as sheep to the slaughtered

\*Circumstances are not evidence that God does not love us. God loves us no matter what the circumstances may be.<sup>2</sup>

v. 37 – we are more than conquerors

- No – the answer to the question “Shall tribulation....”
- In all these things – the struggles and hardships of life
- We are more than conquerors
  - To conquer means “To be victorious over the adversary”

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<sup>1</sup> Preacher's Outline and Sermon Bible - Commentary - The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible – Romans.

<sup>2</sup> Preacher's Outline and Sermon Bible - Commentary - The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible – Romans.

- More than conquerors means “To be overwhelmingly victorious!”
- Through Him who loved us -- that is Jesus our redeemer

v. 38 – For I am sure

- For I am sure
- Neither death or life
- Nor angels nor rulers
- Nor things present nor things to come
- Nor powers
- Nor height nor depth
- Nor anything else in all creation

Not death: confronting death and leaving this world cannot separate us from Christ and His love (John 5:24).

Not life: no trial or pleasure or comfort of life, not any person nor any thing in this life can separate us from Christ and His love.

Not angels, principalities, or powers: no heavenly or spiritual creature, no being from any other dimension can separate us from Christ and His love.

Not any thing present or any thing to come: neither present events, beings or things, nor future events, beings, or things—absolutely nothing in existence or any thing in future existence—can cut us off from Christ and His love.

Not height or depth: nothing from outer space or from the depths of the earth can separate us from Christ and His love.

Note the *grand finale*: if there be any other creature than the ones named, that creature cannot separate us from "the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."<sup>3</sup>

v. 39 – nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God

- Shall be able to separate us from the love of God
- In Christ Jesus our Lord

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<sup>3</sup> Preacher's Outline and Sermon Bible - Commentary - The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible – Romans.

- The love of God is founded in the person and work of Jesus Christ and nothing can take that love away!

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**Conclusion:**

Don't let the adversary tell you God does not love you.

Don't allow circumstances convince you that God does not love you.

Don't let your inner man tell you God does not love you.

God loves you so much he sent his son to die for you so that if you would believe in him, you would not perish but have everlasting life.

**God's Everlasting Love Gives Everlasting Life!**

Open the gift!

Illustration: The Gift! Open it!!!!

**Romans 3:24 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> and are justified by **his grace as a gift**, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

**What are my next steps?**

1. I will know the truth of God's love for me and I will open the gift.
2. I will lean into His love regardless of my circumstances.
3. I will give the gift of love to others.
4. I will love others before they love me.

**Next week:****Celebrate the Joy of Christmas!**

Please invite someone who will benefit from it.