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One of My Favorite Prophecy Passages - Romans 8:17-39



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #197 ~

Romans 8:17-39 starts off by stating that we are *“heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ,”* super-encouraging truths for every Christian. We learn that we will be redeemed and be glorified, that is, be delivered from our sinful body and be given a brand-new one. In addition, we see that this corrupt earth will be set free from sin’s curse and be wonderfully restored. This is our hope and our future, what we ought to be eagerly waiting for, and what will surely and soon take place.

How will this happen? How will we keep going for the Lord during our time on earth, and then get to heaven? We don’t have the power in ourselves to stay strong for the Lord, and in the future somehow transform our bodies so we can then rocket from earth to heaven to be with Jesus. From beginning to end, our salvation is from and for the Lord

God Almighty – it's an awesome and powerful work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. 2 Cor. 13:14

Romans 8:26-39 explains how this happens, how we will be victorious and glorious Christians. It's through the Spirit's sealing, helping, leading, comforting, and by His prayers to the Father on our behalf (Rom. 8:26-27). It's believing that God is sovereign, that He lovingly, wisely, and continually causes all things to work together for good (Rom. 8:28). *"… having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will."* Eph. 1:11

It's also knowing that God will faithfully and forever carry out His plans for us (Rom. 8:29-30). In eternity past He foreknew us, chose us, and predestined us, planning out all the details of our lives so we would be eternally saved – *"… having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation"* (Acts 17:26, Ps. 139:16). At the right time, He caused us to physically be born on this earth, and then He called us, working in our lives so as to lead us to Himself. At the right time God caused us to be born again, forgiving us and giving us His perfect righteousness. He still needs to glorify us, that is, complete our salvation by conforming us to the image of His Son. And never forget that God is God, and what He desires to do, He will do. Do not doubt Him in this – do not question His ability to fully carry out His purposes and plans for your life here on earth. *"I am confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* Phil. 1:6, 1 Cor. 1:8-9

To strengthen this point, Paul emphatically states a *"no"* answer question, *"If God is for us, who is against us?"* (Rom. 8:31-34). These powerful words, that the living God is for you, mean that no one can truly be against you. God showed you His amazing, out-of-this-world love by sending His Son to die for you, pay for your sins, and be raised again. Now this isn't some sentimental love God has for you – what Christ did for you is the rock-solid truth, is factual and foundational to His plan to forever save you from your sins, and is truly the single

greatest demonstration of His love (Rom. 5:8). Since God did this for you, be confident that He will keep doing whatever it takes to make sure you are successful and safe on earth, and will then be gloriously transformed so you can be with Him in heaven (Phil. 3:20-21). An example of God's present work is that Jesus Himself is now praying for you, *"who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us."* Heb. 7:25

Be assured that no angel, no devil, no demon, not you or anyone else, can change or thwart God's personal and eternal plans for you. How can anyone condemn you for any unrighteous thought, word, or deed when Christ has already died for you and dealt with all your sins? Always remember that you have been perfectly and forever justified by Christ, and that you are now, and will be, continually and eternally loved by God. Psalm 103:8-17

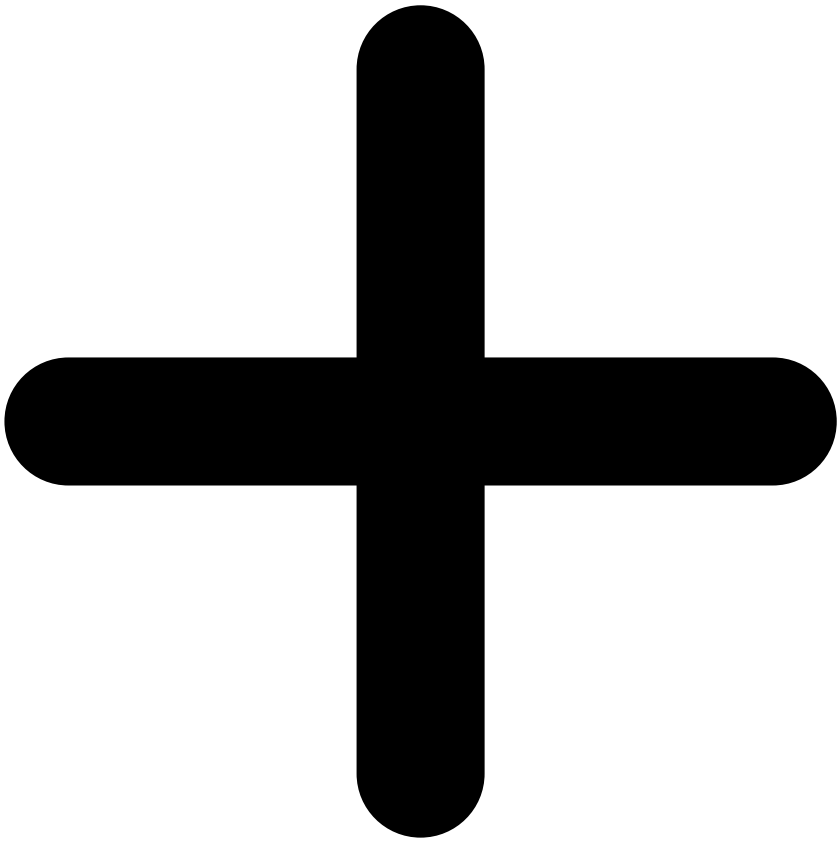
As much as anything, God wants you to be 100% convinced that nothing will ever stop Him from carrying out all His plans for you, and therefore, nothing will ever stop Him from loving you. *"Who will separate us from the love of God?"* (Rom. 8:35-37). This question hits at the heart of God's motivation to save you from your sins, which is His unconditional and unfailing love for you. *"I have loved you with an everlasting love"* (Jer. 31:3). And when tough times come your way, remember the gentle and compassionate love that God has for you. (Matt. 11:28-29). *"I have come to know and have believed the love that God has for me."* 1 John 4:16

Paul then uses some very strong words to describe the trials you may experience as a Christian – tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, and sword. God gives you these worst case scenarios so that if any of them happen, you still know that He loves you and will get you through the devilish darkness of this evil age and make sure you make it all the way to heaven so you can be with Jesus. *"The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever."* 2 Tim. 4:18

To further convince you that nothing can separate you from God's love, Paul gives a more comprehensive list, specifically mentioning death, life, angels, principalities, powers, things related to the past, present or future, things geographically, or any created thing. (Rom. 8:38-39). As a Christian, you may be afraid of someone or something; you may doubt whether you are really saved; you may think some grievous sin will keep you away from Jesus and out of heaven; you may feel like the devil is too strong for you; you may feel like God has left you; or you may be so discouraged by circumstances that you think God doesn't love you anymore. A great many Christians have been afflicted and harmfully affected by thoughts like these. That's why it's imperative to hang onto these truths from Rom. 8:17-39, for you will need them, especially when times are much harder than they are now. Psalm 13, Matt. 24:4-14

That we live in the end-times means life will grow increasingly difficult, for there will be birth pains, false teachers, a wicked Antichrist, betrayal, and great persecution. Always remember that you are a child of God, that you have hope, that the Spirit is praying for you, that your Father's plans for you will be fulfilled, that Jesus died and rose again for you and is also praying for you, and that God Himself really loves you. *"Keep yourselves in the love of God… to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen."* Jude 24-25

P.S. What a joy to know that God is faithfully working in our lives, that He is control, that His plans for our lives will be carried out, and that in the future we will be glorified, and greatly glorify God. Here are two encouraging posts to read – *"God Is In Charge of Everything,"* and *"God Will Keep You Strong to the End."*





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