

## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - Nov. 21-22, 2020

**Title:** MORE THAN we can Measure!

**Text:** Romans 8:31-34

**Target:** The blessing of God isn't meaningless when it is seen as measureless.

### GETTING STARTED:

**Question #1:** As we look at Romans 8 verses 31-34, we can find lots of judicial imagery (e.g. "bring a charge against", "justifies", "condemn", and "intercede"). However, in this great picture, we see that if God is "for us" (vs. 31), that means the verdict has already been declared for those who are in Christ Jesus. Those in Christ have been justified and free from condemnation through the accomplished work of Christ on the cross for them.

What happens when we forget that the verdict has already been declared? (e.g. What lies do we believe about how God sees us? How can we fall prey to the enemy's deceit in times of struggle and remembering our sins and frailties?) How can we regularly remind ourselves of this great truth and hope?

### GOING DEEPER:

- I. **When you think God doesn't Care: He is For you!** "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be **against** us?" (Vs. 31)
  - A. **Principalities of this World Distract You:** "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds." **2 Cor. 10:4**
  - B. **Philosophies of this World Deceive You:** "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind..." **Romans 12:2**
  - C. **People in your World Disappoint You:** "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." **Deut. 31:8**

**Question #2:** "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (vs. 31) Describe a time when you've faced opposition through spiritual distraction, philosophical deceptiveness, or relational disappointment and found peace from God in the midst of a challenge?

- II. **When you say "God won't Provide": He is Faithful to you!** "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**?" (Vs. 32)
  - A. **Demonstrates His Level of Provision:**
    1. **Sent His Son for Sinners:** "for us all"
    2. **Spared not His Son on the Cross:** "spared"

3. **Sacrificed His Son for our Redemption:** “gave up”
- B. **Declares His Loving Promises:** “graciously give us all **things**?”
  1. **Spiritual Blessing:** “His divine power has granted to us all **things** that pertain to life and godliness...” **2 Peter 1:3**
  2. **Material Blessing:** “...and all these **things** shall be added to you. **Matthew 6:33**

**Question #3:** If God gave us His own Son, “how will he not also with him graciously give us all things”? (vs. 32) In God’s faithfulness to us, he provides both spiritual and material blessings to his children. How has sin distorted this idea through modern teachings often called the “Prosperity Gospel”?

- III. **When it seems God doesn’t Defend: He Fights for you!** “Who shall bring any charge against **God’s elect**? It is God who **justifies**.” “Who is to condemn?” (Vs. 33-34a)
  - A. **Choose you to be in His Family:** “foreknowledge & predestination” **Romans 8:29**
  - B. **Claims you as His Own:** “God’s elect”
  - C. **Clears you of all Charges:** “justifies”
    1. **Record has been Expunged**
    2. **Remembered NO more**

**Question #4:** What an incredible thought, that no matter your past or what you’ve done, through the work of Christ on the cross, we are a new creation and no charges can be brought against God’s elect.

With this in mind, is there someone in your life who’s battling with guilt, shame, and who needs to hear that their record can be expunged and remembered no more? (Pray that the Holy Spirit bring to mind one person who you can share this Good News with this Thanksgiving week!)

- IV. **When you sense that God isn’t Listening: He Favors you:** “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.” (Vs. 34b)
  - A. **Raised in Victory:** “more than that, who was raised”- **Death has been Defeated**
  - B. **Reigns in Authority:** “right hand of God”- **His Power can’t be Depleted**
  - C. **Represents us in Purity:** “indeed interceding” - **Our Standing is Defended**

**Question #5:** Christ, who sits at the right of God, is our high priest who not only brings a justifying verdict to all who believe, but is “interceding for us”. (Vs. 34) As we conclude by reading how Christ is praying for us before God the Father, take a moment to pray as a group and thank God for his many attributes (his love, kindness, forgiveness, power, patience with us, faithfulness, his unchanging nature, etc.)

**Takeaway:** We are trained to perceive with our eyes, believe in our minds, react with our feelings, and hold true in our hearts, but we have been transformed to walk by faith and not by sight.

**FINISH BY PRAYING AS A GROUP.**