

## **WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST?**

(Rom. 8:31-39)

### **Introduction:**

1. Wonderful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life! Blessed assurance Jesus is mine!
2. The reality of the Christian's existence can be a difficult one to fully appreciate. We often, due to our limitations in the flesh, see our status incorrectly. We often see ourselves as working our way to heaven, or on the road to eternal life. But the reality is ever so much more wonderful.
3. Let us this morning consider the deal of a lifetime we Christians have been given, and the road to glory we are walking.

### **Discussion:**

#### **I. The Deal of a Lifetime.**

- A. We were helplessly lost in sin (Rom. 1:20-32; 3:23; 6:23; 7:15-24).
- B. But God, through Christ, has set us free (Rom. 5:6-8; 6:23; 7:25-8:4; 1 Pet. 1:18, 19; Rev. 1:5).
- C. We have been adopted into the family of God (Rom. 8:5-17; Gal. 4:4-6; Eph. 2:14-22; 1 Pet. 2:9, 10).
- D. We have eternal life now (1 John 5:13)! It is not some future attainment if we earn it (Rom. 11:6).
  1. We must GET this! It is not a case of having to grow holy enough to be saved, but we have been made holy and saved (1 Cor. 6:11)!
  2. We have eternal life because we have accepted the gift of God, eternal life (John 17:1-3).
  3. We do not wait to go to heaven, we are already there (Eph. 2:6; Phil. 3:20)!!
  4. What we wait for is the removal of the veil of the flesh. The fulfillment of 1 Cor. 13:13.

#### **II. The Road to Glory.**

- A. Until then we walk the narrow road in the light (Rom. 8:5, 6, 14; cp. 1 Thess. 4:1; 1 Cor. 11:1; Eph. 5:1, 2).
- B. Nothing we face ought to be considered enough to cause us to give up our eternal life (Rom. 8:18; cp. Heb. 12:1-3; Luke 24:26).
- C. God works to ensure that we cannot be overcome from without (Rom. 8:28; cp. 1 Cor. 10:13; John 10:28, 29).
- D. What can make us give up our Jesus (Rom. 8:31-39; cp. Matt. 16:26)?

### **Conclusion:**

1. Have you accepted the "deal of a lifetime"? If not, why not? If so, are you on the road to glory? If not, why not?
2. You stand on the podium, the band is warming up for the anthem, the medal is being brought. What could make you step down from glory to destruction?
3. Invitation.

## **MORE ON "WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST?"**

1. This may seem like a quibble about words, but it is not "just" a quibble. Words are important because we think in words and our thoughts are what we live our lives according to. That is why things that may seem so unimportant are actually very influential, like...
  - Going to church versus being the church.
  - having a spirit versus being a spirit.
  - working to be saved versus working because we are saved
2. The Garden of Eden Revisited!
  - In the Garden, mankind enjoyed eternal life and would continue as long as they remained faithful to God's will.
  - In Christ, Christians enjoy eternal life and will continue as long as they remain faithful to God's will.

3. This explains the “hold fast” language in the Bible.
  - Job 2:3 = hold fast his “integrity” = *tummah* = innocence –Strong.
  - Jer. 8:5 = holding fast to “deceit” = *tormah* = fraud –Strong
  - 1 Thess. 5:21, 2 Tim. 1:13, Titus 1:9, Heb. 3:6; 10:23
4. We possess eternal life (1 John 5:13) and the way to retain possession of it (Rev. 2:10 vs. 2 Pet. 2:18-22).
5. Consider the words of our Lord.
  - John 5:39 and compare with John 6:68
  - John 17.
6. Consider two other passages.
  - Rom. 2:5-10
  - Heb. 9:11-15 (cp. Acts 2:38, 39) + Heb. 10:19-39.
7. Summed up perfectly by our Lord in Matt. 16:26!

## **PRAYER LIST FOR WEEK STARTING DEC. 10TH**

### ***Those with long term issues***

Louise Williams, Cliff and Rachel Greenawalt and their family, Ruth Vaughn as she lives with diabetes, and Harrison Waldron.

### ***Those with short term issues***

- ▶ Darrell McKee as he continues his recovery from the infection.
- ▶ Frances Davis as she struggles with some health issues and is preparing to move.
- ▶ Our members who are struggling with sickness/colds/injuries.
- ▶ Our members who are traveling.
- ▶ Our college students who are away from us in body, but not in spirit.
- ▶ Our leadership in the church; that they might be faithful, strong, and bold.
- ▶ Our community; that they may seek the Lord and we might be able to guide them into the truth.