

ROMANS

THE CHRISTIAN'S CONSTITUTION

STUDY TWENTY-TWO

We Overwhelmingly Conquer

Romans 8:31–39

Romans 8:31–39 is the Mount Everest of the biblical Himalayas. It is Pauline theology at its best, setting free forever those who have been captured by the grip of guilt. It's a magnificent passage of Scripture, and it causes us to pause and stare as we let the wonder in.

—Pastor Charles R. Swindoll

SOME battles are so intense and prolonged that victory seems highly unlikely. The insurmountable obstacles, the lack of resources and strategies, and the depletion of human strength add up to certain defeat . . . until the tide turns. A significant shift in the battle inspires hope, renews energy, and leads to a decisive victory. Voices of triumph echo from the mountain peak to the lowest valleys. *We've overcome!*

In humanity's battle against sin, our enemy seems to be winning the war. When sin invaded the world through Adam's sin, "death spread to everyone" (Romans 5:12). As battalions of evil stormed the globe with little resistance, destruction and misery descended on God's creation like a dark cloud.

In response to the world's ills, some wave the banner of humanism. "We can save ourselves!" they boast. But self-effort is no match against the power of sin. "No one does good," Paul lamented (3:12). Only God can save us. Thankfully, He has!

In this *Searching the Scriptures* Bible study, we'll attune our ears to Paul's resounding voice in the concluding verses of Romans 8 and hear him shouting victory. Divine love has conquered sin, death, and the devil. Our enemies are vanquished!



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PREPARE YOUR HEART

Sing the song Moses and the Israelites sang to God after He rescued them from Egyptian slavery:

*Your right hand, LORD, is majestic in power;
Your right hand, LORD, destroys the enemy. (Exodus 15:6 NASB)*

Express your amazement at God’s ability to rescue. In your own words, declare His awesome, liberating power before you turn to this mountain peak of truth in Romans.



TURN TO THE SCRIPTURES

Paul crested his literary peak and looked back on the themes in Romans that stretched behind him. “What shall we say about such wonderful things as these?” (Romans 8:31). What things did Paul see? *Salvation* through faith in Christ in Romans 1–5. *Sanctification* through the Holy Spirit’s power in 6–8:30. And all of it is summed up in the wonders of the prevailing providence of God who turns the tide against evil.

God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose. . . . These whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.
(8:28, 30 NASB)

What does one say about such wonderful things? Words fail us . . . but not Paul! Imagine standing with Paul at the summit of God’s majestic mountain of grace. The view is breathtaking! How has God’s grace so far in Romans touched your heart?

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Observation: Overwhelming Victory in Christ Proclaimed

During the first step of *Searching the Scriptures* Bible-study method, observation, read the passage as if you are reading it for the very first time.¹ So, read [Romans 8:31–39](#) in several translations, including The Message. Compare the phrasing. Let's examine each of Paul's rhetorical questions.

Who Can Be Against Us?—Romans 8:31–32

In [Romans 8:31](#), Paul asked, “Who can ever be against us?” His understood answer is *no one!* But he's not telling us to pound our chests in self-glory. Note how he leads with the provisional term “if”—a first-class conditional sentence in Greek assuming the condition is true for the sake of the argument. Now, rewrite this verse in your own words, rendering the “if” as “since” or “because.”

Now all these great things about salvation, sanctification—what shall we say to these things since God is for us? Put that down as a declaration: God is for us; who shall oppose us? —Pastor Chuck Swindoll

How did Paul complete his answer in [8:32](#)?

Who Dares Accuse Us?—Romans 8:33

Next Paul imagined us receiving a summons to appear in court, where a prosecutor points an accusatory finger at us—“Sinners!” In this courtroom, however, the Judge has already issued the verdict. *Not guilty!* “Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own?” (Romans 8:33). What has God done for us according to [Romans 8:33](#)?

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Nothing will stand to bring a charge against you. Some live under such guilt, and all you can remember is the wrong you've done, the shame you've brought into your life, the failure of going your own way. You live in fear that somehow your sin will accuse you when you die. Please! Stop! God is FOR you.

—Pastor Chuck Swindoll

Who Then Will Condemn Us?—Romans 8:34

Ponder [Romans 8:34](#). “Who then will condemn us?” Paul wondered, and the answer is “No one” (Romans 8:34). On what basis are we pardoned?

Can Anything Ever Separate Us from Christ's Love?—Romans 8:35–39

Since God is for us . . . no one can oppose us, accuse us, or condemn us. Such benefits! But there's one more! *Nothing can separate us from Christ's love.* What things did Paul list that might try to drive a wedge between us and our Lord in [Romans 8:35–39](#)?

The most terrifying enemies imaginable—persecution, destitution, starvation, death, and even the forces of darkness—may assault us. We are as helpless and weak as sheep, but God's love forms an impenetrable shield. What is it like for you to feel secure in God's love?

If Paul's prose were a work of art, it would be the supreme wonder of the world. Nothing will separate us from the love of Christ, nothing! We overwhelmingly conquer these things. Even when we reach the very end, when we breathe our last breath on this earth and take our first breath of celestial air, we have conquered in Christ. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll

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Interpretation: Overwhelming Victory in Christ Explained

Paul packed four important doctrines in his answer to the question, “Who then will condemn us?” (Romans 8:34). Let’s look closer at these doctrines in [Romans 8:34](#). After each phrase in the verse, write down the meaning of the doctrine. Be sure to consult your Bible-study resources.

Substitutionary Atonement

“Christ Jesus died for us . . .” (see [Isaiah 53:5–6](#); [Matthew 20:24–28](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#); [Hebrews 10:12](#); [1 Peter 3:18](#))

Resurrection

“. . . and was raised to life for us . . .” (see [John 14:19](#); [Romans 6:8–11](#); [1 Corinthians 15:3–5, 20](#); [2 Corinthians 5:1–19](#))

Session

“. . . and he is sitting in the place of honor at God’s right hand . . .” (see also [Psalm 110:1](#); [1 Corinthians 15:21–28](#); [1 Peter 3:22](#))

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Intercession

“ . . . pleading for us.” (see also [Hebrews 4:16](#); [7:25](#); [1 John 2:1–2](#))

Who will impeach you? Nobody! I mean why? Because we are the elect. We have the supreme court on our side. We have the attorney who defends us before the Father, pleading our cause and putting down every accusation from the enemy.
—Pastor Chuck Swindoll

Paul concluded his hymn with a confident flourish in [Romans 8:38–39](#): “I am convinced.” Read [8:38](#) in the Amplified Bible. How would you explain Paul’s confidence?

What a magnificent statement. The Greek implies, I stand persuaded, convinced. This is unquestioned, unqualified, unconditional assurance.
—Pastor Chuck Swindoll



Correlation: Victory from the Mountain Peak

Compare [Romans 8:31–39](#); [1 Corinthians 15:50–58](#); [Ephesians 1:19–23](#). How do these passages resound the believer’s victory?

Hardships work hard to bring us down. Unbelievers who persecute are against us. Indwelling sin works against us. Death, our constant enemy, is against us. All sorts of fears and foes can be against us. And I haven’t even mentioned the invisible, sinister forces of Satan and the demons who stand against us and accuse us. The point is, what are they in light of the One who is for us?
—Pastor Chuck Swindoll

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Think about the significance of Jesus as God's gift. Compare [Romans 8:32](#) with [Matthew 7:7–11](#); [Hebrews 4:14–16](#); [James 4:2](#). What should be the disposition of believers' hearts when they're approaching God with a need, and why?

How marvelous is the gift! And it says He will, don't miss the word freely. With a God who is continually supporting us, defending us, protecting us, and standing with us, having given us His one and only Son, surely, He would without hesitation give whatever else we may need. Don't beg God. Just call on Him.
—Pastor Chuck Swindoll



Application: God Is for Me!

"God is for us," Paul declared in his opening (Romans 8:31). What emotions do you feel knowing that God is for you?

Life brings disappointments, even disasters. How will these truths help you remember your victory in Christ?

On this earth, we all have dreams and expectations, and when those dreams are dashed or they die, what we had hoped for falls away. What God has planned is something far better. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll

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We have reached the midpoint of Romans. Among all the truths you've learned, which one resonates with you the most? How can you memorize, internalize, and memorialize that truth?

I don't know where you are in your awareness of a sense of security, but this passage will give it to you. For all the people who would put you down, accuse you, condemn you, and all of those who would stand against you, please understand, they hold nothing in the presence of the living God and what He is able to do for you. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll



A FINAL PRAYER

Lord God, thank You for Your victory! Whether I am on the mountain peak or in the valley, help me remember that in Christ I have the victory! In His name, I pray. Amen!

ENDNOTE

1. To learn more about Pastor Chuck Swindoll's *Searching the Scriptures* Bible-study method, go to the web page, "[How Does Pastor Chuck Swindoll Study the Bible?](#)"

For the 2025 broadcasts, this *Searching the Scriptures* Bible study was developed by Mirlenda Noëlliste in collaboration with Aaron Massey, senior vice president of *Searching the Scriptures* Ministries, and Bryce Klabunde, vice president of *Searching the Scriptures* Ministries, based upon the original outlines, charts, and transcripts of Charles R. Swindoll's messages. Copyright © 2007, 2025 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide. Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

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