

GRACE

THE SERIES

Romans 8.28-39

28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. **29** For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to* become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; **30** and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.



Romans 8.28-39

31 What then shall we say to all these things? If God is for us, who is against us? **32** He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? **33** Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; **34** who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.



Romans 8.28-39

35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **36** Just as it is written, “For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” **37** But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, **39** nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Three Fears

1. I fear I don't love God enough, V 28-29



Three Fears

1. I fear I don't love God enough in the present,
V 28-29
2. I fear God didn't love me enough in the past,
V28-30



Antinomy

“An antinomy exists when a pair of principles stand side by side, seemingly irreconcilable, yet both undeniable. There are cogent reasons for believing each of them; each rests on clear and solid evidence; but it is a mystery to you how they can be squared with each other. You see that each must be true on its own, but you do not see how they can be true together.”

J.I. Packer



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Romans 8.28-30 Highlighted

28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are **CALLED** according to *His* purpose. **29** For those whom He **FOREKNEW**, He also **PREDESTINED** *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; **30** and these whom He **PREDESTINED**, He also **CALLED**; and these whom He **CALLED**, He also **JUSTIFIED**; and these whom He **JUSTIFIED**, He also **GLORIFIED**.



Three Fears

1. I fear I don't love God enough in the present,
V28-29
2. I fear God didn't love me enough in the past,
V28-30
3. I fear God won't keep loving me in the future,
V31-39



Fear & Love

V 31: If (Since) God is for us, who can be against us?



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Fear & Love

V 31: If (Since) God is for us, who can be against us?

V 32: Since God gave us his Son, how will he not freely give us all things we need?



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Fear & Love

V 31: If (Since) God is for us, who can be against us?

V 32: Since God gave us his Son, how will he not freely give us all things we need?

V 33: Since God justified us, who can bring any charge against us?



Fear & Love

V 31: If (Since) God is for us, who can be against us?

V 32: Since God gave us his Son, how will he not freely give us all things we need?

V 33: Since God justified us, who can bring any charge against us?

V34: Since Jesus rose from the dead, who can condemn us?



Fear & Love

V 31: If (Since) God is for us, who can be against us?

V 32: Since God gave us his Son, how will he not freely give us all things we need?

V 33: Since God justified us, who can bring any charge against us?

V34: Since Jesus rose from the dead, who can condemn us?

V35, 39: Since the Christ of love is in us, who or what, in heaven or hell, could possibly separate us from the love of Christ?



Fear & Love

“Following Jesus is never what we expect. We’ll go through times of trust and doubt and fear. We’ll experience suffering. But we discover that despite the promises of the “prosperity gospel,” God came not to save his people *from* storm and suffering but to save them *through* storm and suffering. In those times, Christ comes to us just as he did to the disciples in the storm-tossed boat. We are not always saved from physical death, but we are saved from ourselves, from our fear, from our disbelief in God and his love for us.”

Leslie Leyland Fields, *Crossing The Waters*



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Fear & Love

“I have often advised people to let others carry them in their faith during these times. Like the 4 friends in the story about Jesus in Mark 2:1-12. It was not the paralytic's faith to which Jesus responded initially, but the simple faith of the man's friends. I woke up one day this week and realized that I couldn't locate anything like a genuine "faith" inside me, which would provide enough strength to pray or to meditate. But then it occurred to me that I didn't need any. I realized my friends were helping by simply "being faith" for me. They were welcoming God's grace to me, when I couldn't even do that much. And so, I nestled into my pillow, and enjoyed a moment of realization that I was simply being held by joy.”

Dr. Steve Hayner, President, Columbia Seminary 1948-2015

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Physics and Antinomies

"It seems as though we must use sometimes the one theory and sometimes the other, while at times we may use either. We are faced with a new kind of difficulty. We have two contradictory pictures of reality; separately neither of them fully explains the phenomena of light, but together they do"

Albert Einstein



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Romans 6.15-23

What makes it possible for you to obey?

First, don't forget you have a new heart

Second, don't reverse trust and obey

Third, don't give the wrong permission



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Romans 6.15-23

To run and work the law commands,

Yet gives me neither feet nor hands;

A sweeter thing the Gospel brings—

It bids me fly and gives me wings!

John Berridge, 18th Century



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