

The Wednesday Word: July 21, 2021: Good News for Believers: Part 2

Romans 5: 38-39: *For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Notice the 'US.' Nothing shall separate 'us.' Who are the 'Us he's talking about?' Last time we discovered that they were the foreloved, the predestinated, the called, the justified and the glorified ones. Here, therefore, is good news for believers ... we can never be separated from the love of God. There will never be a moment in history when God will cease to love us.

Paul says, I am persuaded that death cannot separate us from Christ's love. The long icy finger of death could grip any of us at any time ... no one is immune.

But the cold clammy hand of death cannot separate us from the love of God. When we pass through the valley of the shadow of death the Lord will be there (see Psalm 23)

Death will not separate us from His love.

"In peace let me resign my breath,
And thy salvation see.
My sins deserved eternal death,
But Jesus died for me."

Death cannot separate us from Jesus for He has died for us. Life cannot separate us for Jesus is ever living for us.

Life with all its problems,
Life with all its perplexities,
Life with all its difficulties,
Life with all its disappointments.
Life with all its trials,
Life with all its temptations,

Life with all its tears and storms. Cannot separate us from the love of God in Christ. No matter how much you may feel that you have failed or let the Lord down. None of this can separate you from the love of God. Dear believer, He still loves you. No matter what you've done.

Then Paul continues, "I am persuaded that neither death nor life nor angels..." Angels are mighty beings – of which there are 2 classes. "Yes" said the wee boy in Sunday School, there are 2 classes of angels, there's bad angels and there's Charlie's Angels!"

Well, no!

There are good angels (Luke 15:10; Hebrews 1:14) and bad angels (Jude 1:6; Psalm 78:49).

Good angels would never dare to separate us from God's love. And bad angels cannot even if they dared.

"I am persuaded that neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor powers..."

Principalities and powers? That's the organized array of Satan's army ... not even that can separate us from the love of God in Christ.

The worst onslaught from Hell can't separate you. You will not be destroyed. The Lord will stand with you and not abandon you. Don't listen to Satan's lie ... What's Satan's lie? His lie is that God doesn't care for you anymore.

Then Paul says, I am persuaded that 'Things present.' cannot separate us

We live in a world of change but there is nothing new in it.

Look at the news and see rape, theft, hurt, bad things, un- happy things. But they have all happened before. Nothing is new, it is just the same bad old things happening to different people.

But none of these things can separate you.

Things present cannot separate you ... your present state cannot separate you. What is your state? You may feel very backslidden. There was once a time when you felt remarkably close to the Lord but things present have taken their toll.

Listen to me. God loves you just the same. He has not been shocked by you. Your sins may indeed bring dishonour to the name of Jesus. They may have made you blush. You may have changed, but God hasn't.

He loves you still – come back home to him.

I am persuaded that things to come cannot separate us from His love.

The future is filled with uncertainty but there's one thing of which we can be certain ... Judgment day ! It is appointed once to die and afterwards the Judgment (Hebrews 9:27). And we can face judgment because the judge and our lawyer are one and the same (Isaiah 33:22; 1 John 2:1).

Then Paul says, "I'm persuaded that Height nor depth cannot separate us from the love of God." What is height and depth?

What does this term mean? Recent scholarship shows this to mean superstitious.

Superstition cannot separate us from God's love. A true Christian can sit down at a table with 13 people, can spill salt, break a mirror, put an umbrella up inside a room, walk under a ladder, have a black cat run across his path, and all this can happen to him on Friday 13th yet none of it can separate him from the love of God in Christ.

Then there's 'Any other Creature' – literally any created thing.

What can possibly separate us from God's love? What can possibly stop God from loving us? Sometimes life is a fog. Everything is as clear as mud. We don't know where to turn. It feels as if God has forsaken us. It feels as if God doesn't love us.

Well, that's a lie!

Believer if you want to know who God loves and for whom He went to the cross then look in the mirror. Look to Calvary and there see the holy, harmless lamb of God dying in your place and stead.

Listen to these amazing truths again.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

And that's the Gospel Truth!