

Romans Chapter 8  
Week 11, v. 31

Ro 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God [is] for us, who [is] against us?

Ro 8:31 (TCNT) What are we to say, then, in the light of all this? If God is on our side, who can there be against us?

What 'things' is Paul referring to?

Look at Romans 8:28-30. As we read and understand God's word to us, we should get comfort from it. We are safe within His protection and care no matter what comes our way.

Our Federal government has a Witness Protection Program. It's basically designed to provide protection for those who have valuable information about a crime and whose lives are threatened because of their testimony. If you look up facts about the program, you will read that protection is offered is by relocating individuals and giving them a new identity. In other words, the witness hides behind a façade for the rest of their life. It's the best we have to offer.

If you have responded to God's calling, having accepted the gift of His Son, you are under a witness protection program. It is provided for you because you have valuable information about the Truth. The likelihood that you will be threatened or experience adversity because of your testimony is real. But there is no hiding involved. In fact, your witness protection program is so secure that you are encouraged to boldly state who you are and what you know to everyone who will listen. Your witness protection program is run by God and He never fails. Your life in Christ can never be taken away from you. Your identity in Christ will remain. In fact, He will never let you go!

Ps 118:6 The LORD is for me; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Ps 27:1 ([A Psalm] of David.) The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?

De 31:6 "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the LORD your God is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you."

Ps 91:5 You will not be afraid of the terror by night, Or of the arrow that flies by day;

Pr 1:33 "But he who listens to me shall live securely, and shall be at ease from the dread of evil."

Pr 3:24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Joh 10:27-29 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand. "My Father, who has given [them] to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch [them] out of the Father's hand.

If God be for us, who can be against us? He who is infinitely wise has undertaken to direct us: He who is infinitely powerful has undertaken to protect us: He who is infinitely good has undertaken to save us. What cunning, strength, or malice, can prevail against his wisdom, power, and goodness? None. Therefore we are safe who love God; and not only shall sustain no essential damage by the persecutions of ungodly men, but even these things work together for our good. Adam Clarke's Commentary

How do we know God is for us?

Ro 8:15 – He adopted us

Ro 8:16, 26, 27 – He gave us His Spirit

Ro 8:29, 30 – He saved us

What does it mean when someone says they are for someone or something? How would you answer this question? Are you **for** me? If you are for me that means you are in favor of me. Giving favor means you will promote me above another or bestow a privilege upon me. It means I have the benefit of an advantage.

Let's see how good this advantage might be to me. Think about how powerful you are. If you are for me, what can you do for me? Can you protect me from

evil? 2Ti 4:18 The Lord will deliver me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him [be] the glory forever and ever. Amen. Do you have an army to come to my aid? 2Ki 6:17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. Do others fear you because of your power? Ge 35:5 As they journeyed, there was a great terror upon the cities which were around them, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob. Do you have angels to surround me on every side with your protection? Ps 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, And rescues them.

What would be best? To put my trust in a person or thing or in God?

Who is against us? Or, who *can be* against us?

This is really a question of who is greater. God is greater than all people and all things. Ps 124:8

No one can be against us with any success in thwarting our future with God in heaven. Our inheritance is secure. It cannot be taken away.

While God is for us, and we keep in his love, we may with a holy boldness defy all the powers of darkness. Let Satan do his worst, he is chained; let the world do its worst, it is conquered: principalities and powers are spoiled and disarmed, and triumphed over, in the cross of Christ. Who then dares fight against us, while God himself is fighting for us? Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible

If God be for us, with infinite wisdom to guide, almighty power to protect, and boundless love to comfort us, who can be against us? What have we to fear from men or devils? They cannot frustrate his purposes of grace, nor disappoint his designs. He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, of his own good pleasure freely gave him to become incarnate, laid upon him our iniquities, and exacted from him all that punishment which his people had deserved; how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? What can he now withhold, when, compared with the gift of his Son, everything beside must appear but little? Since he hath given him, we may surely conclude he will much more add all the rest, and freely enrich us with all spiritual and eternal blessings in Christ Jesus. ... Note, the views of a dying, risen, ascended, glorified Redeemer, should silence all our fears and doubts, and engage us comfortably

and confidently to trust him under all our trials for time and for eternity. Thomas  
Haweis

### What truths can we learn from Ro 8:31?

- God is on our side (if we are His child)
- If God is on our side, there is no need to fear even in dire circumstances
- Those who are against God will not prevail against Him or against His children

### Application Questions

Read the full chapter of Romans 8 then consider these questions and any other additional thoughts that God may reveal to you.

You've heard the saying "seeing the glass half full or half empty". What describes your outlook the best? Do you concentrate more on difficulties or blessings?

Romans 8:1 says "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus". How does this statement support Romans 8:31?

Do you believe that God will give you everything that is profitable for you to become what He has designed?

Look at Romans 8:28-30. How are you comforted by these verses? God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-holy.

Think of the people or circumstances that seem to be opposed to you. Read Psalms 124:1-8 and Psalms 46:7. Who is for you? Who is greater – people and circumstances or God?

On the whole, what shall we therefore say to these things, or conclude upon this review? surely we may courageously defy all our enemies, and say, If that God who hath all power in himself, and all the events of time and eternity under his direction, {be,} as we have heard, for us, who {can} presume to {be} against us, or be able to do us any hurt by the fiercest opposition, while we are guarded by such a Protector? Yea, I may add, not only what have we to fear, but what have we not to hope and expect, in connection with such views as these? Philip Doddridge N.T.

What is your response to the truth that God is on your side, nothing will prevail against you, and your eternity in heaven is secure?

How does Romans 8:1 encourage you to act differently towards opposition?

If we embrace the truth in Romans 8:1, we will be free from worry. We will then be free to worship with an undivided heart.