Romans Chapter 8 Week 12, v. 32

A few weeks ago we looked at Romans 8:31. Beginning with verse 31 and continuing on through verse 35, there is a series of questions asked.

Romans 8:31 says "What shall we say to these things? [referring to all the blessings of God's children] If God is for us, who is against us?

What are some of the things we found in chapter 8 that would support the statement that God is for us?

He adopted us (Ro 8:15); He planned for our salvation using extreme measures to bless us (Ro 8:29-30); He did not abandoned us but gave us a Helper (Ro 8:16,26-27)

What did we learn about those who are against us?

Those who are against God will not prevail against Him or against His children.

Romans 8:32 gives us another reason why we can be certain that God is for us. This is unequivocally the best and most important evidence of God's love for us.

Ro 8:32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give all things?

According to this verse what did God do for us? How? Why?

Think of a child with their favorite toy. How difficult is it for them to give it to another child? How about something you treasure? How difficult is it to give it away? What if you know the one you give it to will greatly mistreat it?

Think about the people you love. In fact, think about the most important person in your life right now. How easy would it be for you to give that person willingly to someone who you knew would cause their pain, suffering and ultimately death?

We cannot really even begin to comprehend the magnitude of God's love for us in giving His Son willingly to suffer and die for us. He gave the One whom He loved to save those who are so undeserving of His love. Ro 4:25 [He] who was delivered up because of our transgressions, and was raised because [KJV – *for*] of our justification.

2Co 5:18; 21 Now all [these] things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; He made Him who knew no sin [to be] sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Ro 5:6-10 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath [of God] through Him. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

1Jo 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.

How difficult is it for you to love those who hate you or cause trouble in your life or slander you? Do you struggle to love those who simply irritate you? What about those who misunderstand you or have judged you incorrectly? (by the way, if you do struggle with love, this is *your* problem not others – think **pride**) Honestly, how are you doing in the area of love?

Joh 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Romans 8:32 says God did not spare His own Son. Could you, would you hand over your own child to pay the price through an agonizing death for the guilt of another? This is a love we cannot comprehend. God demonstrated the enormity of His love toward us by giving up His only Son to suffer and die even though He was and is completely guiltless. If God was willing to give us the greatest demonstration of His love, it would stand to reason that He would certainly give us everything we need that is of a lesser degree in comparison. He has already given us His most precious gift. [He that spared not his own Son] And can we, his sincere followers, doubt of the safety of our state, or the certainty of his protection? No: for if he loved us, Gentiles and Jews, so intensely as to deliver up to death his own Son for us all, can he withhold from us any minor blessing? Nay, will he not, on the contrary, freely give us all things? For if he told Abraham, who is the father of the faithful, and representative of us all, and with whom the covenant was made, that, because he had not withheld from him his only son Isaac, but delivered him up to that death which he thought his God had required, in blessing, he would bless him; and in multiplying, he would multiply him; that his seed should possess the gate of his enemies; and that in it all the nations of the earth should be blessed, Ge 22:16-19; will HE not give US all that was spiritually intended by these promises, whose only begotten Son was not sacrificed in a figure, but really, in order to purchase every blessing that the soul of man can need and that the hand of God can dispense. Adam Clarke's Commentary

God not only did not spare His own Son but He delivered Him to death.

This word delivered <paradidomi> means someone who is surrendered into the hands of enemies.

Through God's *will* (His purposeful choice and intention) Christ was delivered to the chief priests:

Mark 10:33 "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and will deliver Him to the Gentiles.

Through God's *will* Jesus was delivered to be put to death instead of Barabbas:

In Mark 15:15 Barabbas – a known murderer (Mark 15:7) was released in order that Jesus be delivered to the people to be crucified.

Through God's *will* Jesus was delivered to the Gentiles:

Luke 18:32-33: "For He will be delivered to the Gentiles, and will be mocked and mistreated and spit upon, and after they have scourged Him, they will kill Him; and the third day He will rise again." God did not only *allow* His only son to be surrendered to His enemies but actually *determined* that it would happen in order to save us whom He loves. God put into place all the events that would happen to His Son in order to provide a way for our salvation.

Look at the difference between the words allow and determine:

Allowed means giving permission or consenting to;

Determined means to establish a definite decision or conclusion after an investigation, i.e. knowing all the facts

This is much different than thinking "I have no other choice". God could have left us condemned to die separated from Him and His blessings to a life of pain, suffering and despair with no hope, no direction, and no possibility of anything but wrath. God chose to save us because He loves us.

Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

2Pe 1:3 seeing that **His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness**, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

We see three things in Romans 8:32 that God did/does for us:

- 1 He spared not His own Son
- 2 He delivered Him up for us all
- 3 He will freely give us all things

What characteristics of God do you see in this verse? First, we see His **great and perfect love** for us in His determination to give up His only, begotten Son; second, we see His **absolute dominion** over everyone. Third, we see the demand of God's **absolute justness** in requiring the only perfect sacrifice for our sins.

God is 100% love and God is 100% just. How would you explain this to someone?

The question "how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?", is rhetorical. It has an obvious answer: *God will absolutely give to His children freely all things needed to complete His work in us.* He has already purchased for us the greatest gift of all and that purchase was made while we were His enemies. Now, being His children and at peace with Him (Ro 5:1), of course He will give us the 'lesser' gifts and blessings to help us and bless us.

Ps 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Application Questions

Read Romans Chapter 8. Closely review our study on Romans 31. God gave His children everything, including His only Son. Knowing this truth, do you believe He would withhold something from you that was necessary? Why or why not?

What has God done for you? Read Romans 8: 15-16, 26-67, 29-30.

Is there a reason to fear those who are against you? Why or why not?

How are you doing at loving one another with the love that Christ has shown you? Read John 13:34. What does this verse say? Where do you need to specifically apply it? What keeps you from showing love and kindness to others? Considering what God has done for you, is this appropriate?

What area do you need to work on the most? Whose problem is it when you struggle to show God's love? Why? Do you deserve the love God has given you through His Son? Look up Romans 4:25; 2 Corinthians 5:18, 21; Romans 5:6-10.

Can you explain how God can be loving and just at the same time? What does this mean for us?

When was the last time you shared the Gospel to someone? Are you confident in what you believe? If you are not sure how to share the hope you have in Christ, have you considered using the resource of Evangelism Explosion offered at our church?