

Romans Chapter 8
Week 13, v. 33-34

What does it mean to be safe?

The dictionary definition for this word says this:

1. free from danger or the risk of harm; 2. Secure from risk;

How are your actions and thoughts affected when you are in danger?

Feelings of fear, anxiety or being threatened can cause us to withdraw or flee or in some cases to fight back. Think about the things that make you feel apprehensive or uneasy. What is the root of those feelings?

The dictionary defines anxiety this way: 1. A state of worry and nervousness, 2. An unpleasant emotion experienced in anticipation of some misfortune.

Ro 8:33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies;

In this verse, we are presented with another question.

Who will bring a charge?

This expression is taken from courts of law, and means, who shall accuse, or condemn, or so charge with crime before the tribunal of God as to cause their condemnation? Albert Barnes' NT Commentary

We owe God our lives – the penalty of sin is death – however, He has chosen to justify us through His Son. If God does not bring a charge against His children, who could? We are safe from guilt because of what God has already done.

Who are God's elect? Romans 8:28

What did God do for His children? Romans 3:23-26

We committed an offense against God and He is the only One who can wipe that offense clean.

Ro 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Job 1:10 "Hast Thou not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

Isa 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their vindication is from Me," declares the LORD.

Re 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

Look at Jesus' answer to the rejection of the Jews:

Isa 50:7-9 For the Lord GOD helps Me, Therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, I have set My face like flint, And I know that I shall not be ashamed. He who vindicates Me is near; Who will contend with Me? Let us stand up to each other; Who has a case against Me? Let him draw near to Me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps Me; Who is he who condemns Me? Behold, they will all wear out like a garment; The moth will eat them.

According to these scriptures, can we be confident that we are safe in God's hands?

Learn hence, that it is impossible for any charge or accusation to take place against those whom God doth justify, because there is nothing to accuse them of, none to accuse them to, and nobody to frame or make the accusation against them. Well might the apostle say, Who can, who shall, who may, who dare lay anything to the justified person's charge!

William Burkitt New Testament

God is the one who condemns, God is the one who justifies. God's children do not need to live in guilt or fear.

Ro 8:34 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.

In respect of persons accusing, Who shall? He excepts none in heaven, none on earth, nay, none in hell; neither sin, nor the law, nor Satan, nor conscience, having anything to lay to our charge, in order to our condemnation. William Burkitt New Testament

Romans 8:34 gives us four statements about Jesus.

- Christ Jesus is He who died (Philippians 2:5-8) willingly to save us from condemnation
- Christ Jesus was raised (Ro 4:24; Ro 5:6-10; Ro 14:9; 1 Cor 15:20; 1 Peter 1:3) for our justification
- Christ Jesus is at the right hand of God (Mark 16:19; Col 3:1) with all authority. (Matthew 28:18; John 17:2; Heb 8:1; 1 Peter 3:22)
- Christ Jesus intercedes for us (Heb 7:25; Heb 9:24; 1 John 2:1; 1 Timothy 2:5)

Why did Christ die? Christ died to save us not to condemn us. We are secure because of His death and resurrection.

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, [the] just for [the] unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

1 John 2:1 says we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

What does it mean to have an advocate? (parakletos – intercessor, consoler, advocate, comforter)

Advocate: someone who speaks or pleads in favor of

Is Jesus Christ your advocate? What does God see when He looks at you? There are only two answers – God will see you through the work of His Son or He will see your sin that will condemn you.

Application Questions

Read the full chapter of Romans 8. Be sure to have your notes and 'apply it' bookmark handy.

Read Romans 3:23-26. What did God do for us?

What does it mean to have been declared righteous by God? Can we be condemned by anyone else? Read Romans 8:1. What is the qualifier for there to be no condemnation?

Read Job 1:10; Isaiah 54:17; Revelation 12:10

Can we be confident that we are safe in God's hands?

What four things do we learn about Christ in Romans 8:34?

1-

2-

3-

4-

What does it mean to have Christ intercede for us? Hebrews 7:25, 9:24; 1 John 2:1; 1 Timothy 2:5

If you have accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, is there any reason to be fearful of people or circumstances?