



# Romans

**Right With God**

## **More Than Conquerors**

**Lesson Thirty-Three**

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum*

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Page 2 of 4

### More Than Conquerors

In our last lesson, Paul had the Roman system of adoption in mind when he said that a person of faith is adopted into an irrevocable relationship with God. And, in this new relationship, we are heirs with Christ, and we share in His glory. Wow, what a great picture!

But then, as if Paul looked around in the middle of his dictation and saw the current situation in the world, he is drawn back to earth. Read Romans 8:18-25.

Paul saw a world that was dying. All of creation has a time limit. According to the Bible, even the world itself will someday burn up. Paul looked at this dying world with the eye of an artist. He sees all of creation as well as God's children groaning. Groaning describes frustration. Do you ever get really impatient for something...like a cold drink of water on a hot sweaty day? That's the feeling. Everything and all of God's children are "eagerly waiting." It's like someone leaning forward to get a better view of what God is going to do.

And God is not going to disappoint us. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. Isaiah 65:17. And, according to our lesson last week, believers have a new family bond, we have a new life in Christ, a new life that will never end. In verses twenty-four and twenty five, after seeing the pain of frustration, Paul shouts his joy: "In this hope we are saved." And, he settles comfortably into his faith leading him to rejoice in patience, waiting for God to do His thing.\*

In the next few verses Paul demonstrates his faith. Read Romans 8:26-30. First, in verses 26 and 27, he teaches one of the most important lessons on prayer. It is probably second only to Jesus' teachings in Matthew 6:5-15. Here Paul says that we don't have to know the right words to say. All we have to do is feel our prayer and God's Holy Spirit will say it for us. He also says that whether we can see it or not, ultimately God is going to bring good out of all that happens in the life of the believer. God has known us from before time began, and He is working a plan that will be the very best for us in the end. This passage teaches us that we can refuse to do God's will. But if we do it, God is going to bless His plan in spite of us.

Paul, in the final verses in this chapter gets totally excited. Read Romans 8:31-39. Wouldn't it have been wonderful to watch Paul dictate this that winter day (AD 56-57) in Corinth? You can just see him looking up, arms waving, as he almost sings these words from his passionate heart. No one and no thing, can survive as our attacker. God is for us! No one and no thing, can bring a valid charge against us. Jesus Christ is our advocate...our lawyer! So, Paul shouts, "who can separate us from the love of Christ?" And he already knows the answer. No one and nothing!

# Romans

## Right With God

Lesson Thirty-Three

Page 3 of 4

But true to his nature, Paul made lists of the threats. He asked is it trouble or hardship? Is it hunger or lack of clothes or the threat of martyrdom? Remember, the people in Rome were in constant danger from the Roman soldiers' swords. His response to his own questions is a resounding NO! Then he says it, "We are more than conquerors!" Now, conquerors are successful. They defeat the enemy. They overcome. They subdue. So, how can you be more than a conqueror? Well, Paul knew.

Nothing can conquer us: Life nor death. Angels nor demons. The present nor the future. No powers: hostile spiritual forces (See Ephesians 6:12). No height nor depth. Jesus made the space and rules it. And, just in case someone thinks Paul left something out, he says that nothing in anything we know anything about can conquer us. So think up anything that threatens or can threaten you. Just be absolutely sure that God controls that, too!

**Scripture Memory: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 8:38, 39**

\*Underlined statements in this Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.

### **For the Teacher:**

***Lesson Goal: To show the student God's all-powerful care for His children.***

1. The scope of this lesson is large. The writer found it very difficult to combine all these glorious thoughts into one lesson. However, since this is such familiar scripture, it was felt that the combination of thoughts would serve to make a more powerful statement. Please do not skip any Scripture reading. Do enjoy teaching these wonderful truths.
2. When Paul paints the picture of the dying world we are reminded of the line from the old hymn, "Change and decay in all around I see." (From "Abide With Me") Paul's Jewish religion saw time in two sections. There was the present age, and the age to come. So the Romans would identify with the dramatic picture of a presently groaning world. They would be looking forward to the age to come; the redemption Paul speaks of in verse 26.
3. The phrase "we wait eagerly," in verse 22, is most often used of Christians looking forward to the second coming of Jesus. See Galatians 5:5; Philippians 3:20; Hebrews 9:28. "Wait eagerly" means intense interest, deep desire.
4. Verse 36 is a quotation from Psalm 44:22. For more on Paul's understanding of this idea, you might also want to reference I Corinthians 4:9; 15:30, 31; II Corinthians 4:11; 6:9; 11:23.
5. Verse 24a: "The Christian pilgrim is on the road to glory, assured that the promises of the word and the spiritual energy provided for his "walk" are not illusions. As he sees the dark tunnel of death ahead of him, he is confident that beyond it the road leads on to his destination, though it remains unseen. Simply because an element of our salvation—the redemption of the body—is held in reserve, we have a legitimate exercise of hope. If all were ours now, there would be no place for it." Everett Harrison in The Expositor's Bible Commentary.
6. Commentator Griffith Thomas, discussing the phrase "more than conquerors," says that there is a French translation of Scripture that renders this "conquerors, and more than that." Others translate it "super conquerors." Thomas says, "Not merely do they have victory, but something far more, an overwhelming defeat of all enemies." God's children don't only win the battle, they win the war. And it is all because of the love of God, demonstrated in Christ Jesus.

# Romans

## Right With God

Lesson Thirty-Three

Page 4 of 4

### *Student Worksheet*

## More than Conquerors

=Paul shouts his joy: “In this \_\_\_\_\_ we are saved.” And, he settles comfortably into his \_\_\_\_\_, leading him to rejoice in patience, \_\_\_\_\_ for God to do His thing.

=Paul says that we don’t have to know the right \_\_\_\_\_ to say. All we have to do is feel our prayer and God’s \_\_\_\_\_ will say it for us.

=No one and no thing, can \_\_\_\_\_ as our attacker. God is for us! No one and no thing, can bring a valid \_\_\_\_\_ against us. Jesus Christ is our advocate...our \_\_\_\_\_! So, Paul shouts, “who can \_\_\_\_\_ us from the love of Christ?” No one and \_\_\_\_\_!

=Nothing can conquer us: \_\_\_\_\_ nor death. \_\_\_\_\_ nor demons. The \_\_\_\_\_ nor the future. No \_\_\_\_\_: hostile spiritual forces (See Ephesians 6:12). No \_\_\_\_\_ nor depth. Jesus made the space and rules it. And, just in case someone thinks Paul left \_\_\_\_\_ out, he says that \_\_\_\_\_ in anything we know anything about can \_\_\_\_\_ us. .

**Scripture Memory: “For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 8:38, 39**

#### **A Roman Road to Salvation:**

**Romans 3:23** “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Everyone is a sinner and needs salvation.

**Romans 6:23a** “For the wages of sin is death.” The law of God is unchangeable. If someone sins the penalty must be paid, the payment is death.

**Romans 5:8** “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us.” God loves us so much, according to John 3:16, that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins.

**Romans 6:23b** “But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” The penalty for sin is spiritual death, but God, through the death of Jesus on the cross, took the penalty for the sins of all people, and now everyone can have eternal life. See also, II Corinthians 5:21

**Romans 10:9, 10** “That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” To personally receive the gift of God, eternal life in Christ Jesus, you trust God to be what He says He is. Believing that “God raised Him (Jesus) from the dead” is to accept all that the Bible says about God and His Son, Jesus. Then you speak (confess) the words, “Jesus is Lord,” as a statement of faith. Believing “with your heart” means that you believe with your mind and with everything that you are.

**Romans 10:13** “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” You have the promise of God Himself that if you do what Romans 10:9, 10 says, you will become God’s child and have eternal life.

**Romans 12:1, 2** “I urge you brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.” Becoming a Christian is a life-long act of faith and worship.