

Romans 8:34-35

Like verse 33, verse 34 uses the image of a court room. Who can condemn? Christ is the only One who can rightfully condemn us because He lived a perfectly righteous life. Instead of being our prosecutor, Jesus chose to be our Defender. He has built us a sure defense. In verse 34, there are four reasons that a believer can never be found guilty. 1. Jesus paid the price of our sins with His death. 2. Jesus had victory over our sin with His resurrection. 3. Jesus sits at the right hand of His Father in an exalted position. 4. Jesus now pleads our case. No one can condemn us because the only One Who could have rightfully done so was willingly condemned in our place.

Do hard and confusing circumstances mean that Christ does not love us anymore? Paul brings up this very topic in verse 35, and his rhetorical questions lead us to a resounding, "No!" The list of hardships that Paul discusses is something that he had experience with. This was his life: tribulations, distresses, persecutions, famine, nakedness, peril, and sword. Despite his hardships, Paul was confident in Christ's love. Why? Because Jesus had already proved His love by laying down His sinless life for us. Why would He withdraw His love now?

1. What is revealed about God in these verses?
2. What is revealed about you in these verses?
3. What is God trying to teach you about your position as His child through these verses?
4. Specifically, what needs to change in your actions and/or thought patterns in order to glorify God by living out this position as His child?

Write out one personal goal of action to better live out these truths this week; Be specific.

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