

Romans 8:36-37

Christians are not exempt from struggles; they are continually present. The world will continually be against us; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter. Being connected to Christ, means being connected to the opposition that faces Him. In the midst of struggles, we can have confidence in God based on His past deliverances. We must trust Him to guide us through pain, even when we do not understand what He is doing. Suffering does not mean that God has retracted His love. He has delivered up His precious Son to suffer for our sake. Christ's suffering does not mean that He is any less precious to God. Nor does our suffering mean that we are any less precious in God's sight. We magnify His name when we unwaveringly trust in Him.

In verse 37, Paul highlights that through Him that loved us, we are no longer sheep for the slaughter; but conquering sheep. We are "super victors." When we stand in the shadow of the Shepherd, our victory is sure. The cross is the proof of God's love for us, and is the basis of our victory. It proves that God is for us. We will conquer in the sense that we will emerge from trials more like Christ. We will conquer when God's purposes are achieved through us and others see God's grace in our lives. When we are weak, then we are strong.

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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