The Best News in the World – Romans 8

<u>Romans 8:31-39</u> "If God is for Us..."– November 28, 2021

FIRSTBAPTIS CHURCH UPPERMARLBOR

Introduction

What adjectives would you use to describe God? What adjectives would you use to describe how God thinks of you? When you experience trials or have certain fears and anxieties, you may begin to think that this must have something to do with what God thinks of you. You may ask, "What is He trying to teach me?"

By God's grace, wise counsel leads us to remember that God is who He says He is! Our feelings, though real, don't dictate our standing before God.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use <u>Psalm 119:33-40</u> as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. In Christ, God is for you. Vs. 31-34
- II. In Christ, God will keep you. Vs. 55-39

Read & Discuss

1) Read 8:31-34

The apostle Paul has just finished reminding the Roman believers of their current standing and future in Christ. (8:29-30) Paul's point is that God's saving work is based on what He has done. His sanctifying work and the believer's future glory will be completed. (Philippians 1:6) However, as we await that future glory, there are forces that try to stand against us – the world, the flesh and the devil. None of them can stand against God's elect. We don't have to do anything to earn God's favor. God has promised to equip believers to finish the race. Jesus is at the right hand of God interceding for us. We no longer stand condemned. (8:1)

Do you believe that God is for you? What can you do when you experience the accusations of Satan? How does knowing that Jesus intercedes in your behalf help you overcome thoughts and feelings of shame and guilt?

Additional Reading: Revelation 12:9-11; Romans 7:15-25; 1 John 2:1; Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 2:15

2) Read 8:35-39

If you are in Christ, God is for you, and Jesus is interceding on your behalf. Being a Christian is not about preserving our life now. We are more than conquerors through Jesus! He is the One Who loves us and gives us the victory. Nothing in all of creation can separate us from the love of God in Jesus. This is greater than any trial we have now. We must remember – this is not our home. We are heirs with Christ! (8:17)

Are you living as if this is your home and that this life is all that matters? Can you look back on your life and recall the times that God has kept you? How can recalling God's past grace in your life, help you have faith for the future?

Additional Reading: Psalm 40; Romans 8:17

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to repent?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I understand, believe, desire, or do?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to com.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to John 20:1-31 "Life in His Name"