

Romans 8:28-39
“Don’t Give Up”

~ INTRO. ~

LET’S RECAP (Rom 8)...

1st – We’ve been saved from Condemnation (v.1)

2nd – We’ve been “*made me free*” (v.2)

3rd – **WE DISCOVERED...**

- Living according to the Spirit requires change...
 - In both beliefs & practices.

- **WE LEARNED...**

- We’re to stay away from spiritually dead behaviors.

4th – We’re to be led by the Spirit because we’re Sons.

AND OUR TAKE AWAY... HAS BEEN...

- a) We’re to follow God & allow Him to control our lives.
- b) Certain behavior wrecks spiritual growth.
- c) Hardships are part of the Christian life.

~ STUDY ~

NOW... TODAY...

- We gain truth to keep us anchored into hope!
 - (v.27) “*The will of God...*”
- Which can be a mystery to us in the short-term...
 - Because we don’t always know what God’s up to.

(Isa. 55:9) NKJV

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts”

IDEA #1 – IT’S ALL GOOD

CHRISTIANS MUST LEARN...

- That God has a plan AND is using it for GOOD in our lives.
 - When we own this truth...

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- We have HOPE to endure the struggles that surface.
 - (Rom. 5:3-5) NLT

HOWEVER...

- If we let this truth escape from us...
 - And remain unaware of how God works in our lives...
 - At some point you’ll give up AND walk away.

THE BIBLE SAYS... (Matt 13:20-21) NKJV

OK...

- **What do the struggles look like that can send us running?**

AN EXAMPLE FROM (Gen. 37:28)...

- We see **Joseph** as a 17-yr. old kid...
 - Being hit with rejection from his family...
 - And sold to **gypsies**. (human trafficking)

JOSEPH’S... STORY GOES ON...

- And we see him accused of a serious crime & sent to prison.
 - (Gen. 39:14) & (Gen. 39:20)
 - For 13-yrs he struggled thru difficulty (Gen. 41:46).

BUT... HERE’S WHAT HE LEARNED ABOUT GOD:

- 1) He recognized his situation passed thru God’s hand (Gen. 45:5) NLT
- 2) He recognized God was using it for good (Gen. 50:20) NLT

(Eph. 1:4-10) NLT

IDEA #2 – NO DOUBLE JEOPARDY

(v.33) NKJV

- This verse speaks of an official summons to appear in court
 - To face off with an accuser – *“bring a charge”*

REMEMBER...

- (Rom. 8:1) *“there is no condemnation”*
 - We’ve been **justified**

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○ And there’s no longer charges against us.

- Yet Satan accuses Christians night & day (Rev.12:10) NLT

(v.34) SO PAUL UNDERSCORES...

- **Four Christian Doctrines:**

- 1) Christ’s sacrificial death
- 2) Christ’s resurrection from the dead
- 3) Christ’s accession to right hand of the Father
- 4) Christ’s intercession for us

IDEA #3 – I AM PERSUADED

THIS CHAPTER STARTS WITH...

- “*no condemnation*”

AND ENDS WITH...

- “*no separation*” (Rom. 8:39)

Separation – Grk. = To divorce or break a relationship.

- Lost relationship cause us to fear & hold back in life.
 - God doesn’t want us to live that way.

NOW...

- We see a spectrum of things that could discourage us...
 - And cause us to think that God is done with us.

Two buckets of issues...

#1) **Natural Obstacles:** (Situations that can bring out the worst in us)

- a) Tribulation – Pressure from unfair situations
- b) Distress – anxiety / trouble / worry
- c) Persecution – Discrimination / victimized / abused
- d) Famine – hunger (Matt 6:25-26)
- e) Nakedness – nudity from a lack of clothing (Matt 6:30)
- f) Peril – (2 Cor 11:26) immediate danger from a threat
- g) Sword – instrument of death used by the court to terminate life

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#2) **Spiritual Obstacles:** (c.p. our protection (Gal. 6:11-12))

- a) Death – separation of the soul from the body naturally or violently
- b) Life – a person preserved in the midst of extreme danger
- c) Angels – fallen / demons
- d) Principalities – demon with authority to control an area
- e) Powers – demons that oppress mind & body
- f) Things present (current situations) (Gal 1:4) = present evil age.
- g) Things to come (future situations)
- h) Height – idea is barrier of opposition
- i) Depth – of knowledge & new thoughts c.p. (2 cor. 10:4-5)
- j) Any created thing – (Rom 1:18 & 25) “suppress truth”
... the idea is the “act” of making something up (new truth).

HERE’S THE POINT:

- Nothing can stop God’s plan for your life in Jesus!

~ IN CLOSING ~

LET’S APPLY THIS...

- God has done all the work AND now He’s calling us...
 - To **trust AND rely on Him to get us thru.**

HE’S NOT... Looking to cut us off.

- He’s paid the price for our life.
- He’s put His Spirit in us.
- He wants us to understand we have victory in Him.