***Romans 8:37-39 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

We’re back with the Apostle Paul this morning in the finishing verses of Romans 8. In the last few weeks, we’ve studied how we that believe in Jesus find ourselves being freed from the desires of the flesh and the carnal mind and having a new focus on the desires of the Spirit, life and peace. We desire to grow in Christ, align with God’s word daily, do God’s will in our life, serve others as our worship of God, hunger and thirst after righteousness, share one another’s burdens, love our neighbor as ourself, and be a witness for Jesus to bring others to Christ. We know that the flesh clouds the Spirit like a cataract clouds the eye. Yet, we have intercessors praying for us with the mind of the Spirit, bringing our prayers into alignment with God. But we must not be actively resisting the Spirit by allowing our minds to focus on the flesh.

In verse 37, we read *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.* In all these things, we are so much more than just winners. We didn’t just get a ribbon and a trophy to take home to set on the mantle and look at as we age through life. No! Verse 18 says *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.* Our current sufferings are a blip on the radar… a vapor within this vapor that we call life. We give them worth, though they are not worthy to be given worth. We, my brothers and sisters, are MORE than conquerors! We are God’s family, grafted in, indwelt with the very Spirit of God, and living eternally. My body aches, but my eternal life is saved! My salvation and destination is assured by Him who loved us, even while I was yet still a sinner. That’s victory my friends. How can we assign so much worth to the dying flesh of this world?

Verse 38 - *For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come.* I am persuaded – meaning I am confidently convinced and in complete agreement. How is Paul persuaded? By faith, not circumstances. Neither death, which realize at that time that the Christians were being martyred, hunted down and killed, beheaded. Nor life, with all the temporary afflictions and minor passing aches and pains. Nor angels, or messengers, no matter their strength. Nor principalities, nor powers, be these principalities of earthly power, such as kings and governors, or spirit powers, such as evil angels and malicious spirits such as are found in Ephesians 6:12 *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.* Nor things present – things that challenge us day by day during the walk through this world. We walk in a time of temptation all around us. Nor things to come – Matthew 6:34 says *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble*. The present nor the future will separate us. At this point, we have to be sensing the all-encompassing way that the Apostle Paul is covering all bases. The sin of our past has been cast as far as the east is from the west by God, so Paul doesn’t even mention it here.

Verse 39 *Nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* The present and things to come dealt with all time elements, the present moment and any moment to come. Now, Paul covers the place element – space reaching high and deep. From highest heaven to the deepest abyss, we cannot be moved. Nothing in the space between the very highest of high and the very lowest low will impact us in any heavenly way. *Nor any other created thing* ***–*** Anything that may have been missed in all the other statements is captured here. Nothing, absolutely nothing, has the power to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Verses 38-39 answer resoundingly the questions that were posed in verses 33-35 - *Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect?* *Who is he who condemns?* *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?* The answer – no one and nothing. No one can bring a charge against that which God has forgiven. No one condemns, as even in Christ there is no condemnation. No one can separate us, when we belong to God through Jesus Christ. Come feast or famine, prosperity or poverty, life or death, we are God’s adopted, beloved sons and daughters, grafted into the vine, bearing fruit for the Father, pursuing His Kingdom daily. Are we persuaded?

This week, let’s find ourselves rejoicing that, when we have given our life to Jesus, and submitted to His Kingship, we bear no charge, suffer no condemnation, and fear no separation. Kings and kingdoms shall all pass away, but we will still be safe in His name. How wonderful that we are convinced! How freeing that we have nothing to fear! How hopeful that we walk in this world sealed for a Home above. Let’s live as though this is all that matters… because my friends… this truly is all that matters. We are saved by the blood of the Lamb of Calvary. Let’s live as though we are persuaded.