

Romans 8:35 - "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?"

At first glance, it might seem that this verse is asking: "What could make us stop loving Jesus or abandon Him—trouble, hardship, famine, suffering, or danger?" However, this is not the correct interpretation. The Apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, did not write this verse to suggest that our love for Christ could fail due to life's trials.

The true meaning of this verse is:

"Who or what can make us cease to be loved by Christ or be rejected by Him? Shall hunger, suffering, hardship, nakedness, danger, or the sword?"

Notice carefully: the love mentioned here is Christ's love for us, not our love for Him. Paul assures us that no matter the circumstances—be it hunger, trials, persecution, or danger—Christ cannot abandon, reject, or hate us. He remains with us to comfort, guide, and uphold us through every trial.

As the Psalmist declares:

Psalm 23:4-6 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Thus, if we have trusted in Christ, we can rest in the knowledge that His love has been poured out upon us. Nothing in life—trials, hardships, or enemies—can separate us from His love. While challenges are placed before us to test and strengthen our faith, Christ has promised to be with us and grant us victory.

But what if you haven't received Christ yet?

If you haven't accepted Jesus, you are outside this love—outside the door. Christ cannot be on your side because you do not yet believe or desire Him. Today, He calls you. Do not harden your heart.

What must you do?

Decide today to be saved. Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and Savior of your life, and then repent—meaning turn away from all sin and wrongdoing that displeases God.

If you were involved in sexual immorality, renounce it.

If you were stealing, stop.

If you were committing murder or other sins, turn away.

True repentance is demonstrated by action. When you genuinely repent, God is ready to show mercy and forgive all your past sins, corruption, and offenses.

Peace from God enters your heart as a result of this forgiveness—a supernatural peace that confirms your salvation. This peace is evidence of God's pardon.

To maintain this peace, seek biblical water baptism promptly:

Baptism should be full immersion, as in John 3:23.

Baptism is performed in the name of Jesus Christ, following the pattern in Acts 2:38, Acts 8:16, Acts 10:48, and Acts 19:5.

This invokes the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Through baptism, the love of Christ is secured within you, so that even in trials, suffering, or success, His love remains unshakable and protects you until the very end.

May the Lord bless you.

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