

**February 13, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**Rom. 8:35-39** *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (NIV)*

One of the wonderful joys of salvation is knowing that you can never be taken away from the Father Who loves you. This passage begins with this wonderful and thought-provoking question. *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?* And as Paul begins to name things that would no doubt separate us from others, he declares the security we have in Christ. This security gives us peace of mind and heart. We can know that our LORD will never turn His back on us or forsake us in any way.

This does not mean that we won't face trials. We most certainly will. As **James 1:2-4** reminds us: *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (NIV)* These trials would be detrimental to us without the LORD in our lives. We would certainly turn to other things to try to help us through. But no one could help us like the LORD. He brings joy in sorrow. He brings strength to those who are weak. He is a Father to the fatherless. It is His love, and strength and desire to fulfill everything that we will ever need. He is so very faithful; perfectly so.

**Dear LORD, You are our strength and our hope. We can face whatever this day brings in Your power and provision. Help us to rely on You completely for all of our needs, for You will surely supply them. In Jesus Name, Amen**