

# A Daily Devotional Study Guide

God is Love

**I, II, III John  
& Jude**

**WEEK 3**

## *“Confidence In God”*

**Study:** I John 3:19-24

**Reading:** Romans 8:10-24, I John 4

**Memory:** Romans 8

I have played hockey since I was 18 and in that time I played very well in some games and other games were not so good. Sometimes the bad games were a result of the way that I felt physically because I was injured or sick, but many other times, the bad games were a result of my mental state. At times, I lost confidence in my ability and didn't play as hard because I didn't think I could do it. It was at these times that I had to mentally force myself to play harder even though I didn't feel like it.

Today, we are going to see that sometimes we won't feel like we are saved and we won't feel like living for God. It is at these times where we need to trust Him to give us the power we need to live for Him and we need to choose to obey His Word.

### What Does the Bible Say?

People often doubt whether or not they are truly saved. This can happen for several reasons, but many times it is the result of sin or disobedience. John told us that we can have the assurance that we are believers when our lives are characterized by love towards others (vs 19). Even if we feel that we are not good enough to make it to heaven, we can have God's assurance that we are saved. God's power is greater than our feelings. There will be times in your life where you don't feel saved, but that doesn't change your position before God (vs 20).

Though at times, Christians may worry and wonder about their condition before God, we shouldn't expect that to be the norm in our lives. In fact, John told us that we can have great confidence in God. We have the privilege of not only knowing we are God's children, but we can also feel like we are His children as well. This comes when we develop a relationship with Him. When we love Him more, we will live for Him more. The more we are living for Him, the more confidence we will have in His ability to hear and answer our prayers. Some people think that God is like a genie that is just there to answer their every need. God

wants to answer your prayers, but He first wants to have a relationship with you. When your mind is in tune with God's because of your relationship with Him, you will see your prayers answered (vs 21-22).

Verses 23 and 24 are the conclusion to the thoughts that John had written in the first three chapters. John told us how we can live a wonderful life if we just follow two commandments that God has given. First, we need to believe in Christ. Belief isn't just a state of mind but is lived out by our actions. Second, we need to love others. Loving others is a simple commandment, but it is very difficult to consistently follow. The enemy is constantly trying to draw our minds away from others so that we will focus on ourselves (vs 23). We can know that we are true believers when we do what is right. God doesn't expect us to do right on our own, but because we have the Holy Spirit, we have the ability to live holy before Him (vs 24).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

Do you doubt your salvation? Are there times that you don't feel like you are saved? God has given you all you need to conquer your doubts and have the assurance of salvation. God, in His great wisdom, knew that you wouldn't be able to live righteously on your own. He knew that no matter how hard you would try, you would fail. That is why he gave you the Holy Spirit. Through the power of the Holy Spirit you have the ability to overcome any sin. The Holy Spirit will also encourage you to live righteously before God even when you don't feel like living for God. It is a wonderful thought to know that you don't have to try to live the Christian life alone. God is always there for you. With the help of the Holy Spirit you can do all things. So what is your responsibility? You have a choice. You can choose to use the power that God has given you, or you can choose to live a life of selfishness. What choice are you making?

## **Suggestions for Prayer**

\* *Thank God for giving you the power to live for Him and the ability to know Him.*

\* *Ask God to help you to follow His leading in your life.*

## **Thought for the day**

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What do you have the ability to know (vs 19)?

How can you be confident in your salvation (vs 19)?

What can sometimes condemn you (vs 20)?

What do you think this means?

What is greater than your heart (vs 20)? Why?

Why is the understanding that God knows everything so important to your salvation?

How did John address his readers (vs 21)? Why?

What do you think verse 21 is saying?

*\*\*\*If you live in guilt over your sin and are not confident of your standing before God, you will not have confidence to have a relationship with him or to live for Him like you should.*

What will God do when you ask (vs 22)?

Why will He do this (vs 22)?

What does this verse reveal about the way God answers prayer?

What are the two main commandments that you need to keep (vs 23)?

1.

2.

How can you abide in God (vs 24)?

How does God abide in you (vs 24)?

Why is the Holy Spirit so important for you (vs 24)?

# “Judge Not?”

**Study:** I John 4:1-6

**Reading:** John 16:7-15, II Thessalonians 2:1-12

**Memory:** Romans 8

I enjoy watching the sport of boxing (though my wife says that it shouldn't be a sport). The one thing I don't like about boxing matches is when they end their scheduled rounds with both boxers still standing. When that happens, they have to go to the judges and ask them who they thought won the fight. It seems that each judge judges differently. I have seen fights where it seemed obvious the judge didn't watch the same fight I did. This is often because the judge sees things from a completely different perspective than I do.

Today, we are going to see that judging can be a good thing. God doesn't want us to judge others based on our opinions or preferences, but He wants us to judge based on the Word of God.

## What Does the Bible Say?

One of the verses that many Christians love to quote is Matthew 7:1 which states, “Judge not, that you be not judged.” On the surface, this verse and John 4:1 which states, “try” (test or judge) “the spirits” seem to contradict, but further study reveals that they don't. In Matthew, Jesus warned us about judging others when we ourselves aren't doing what is right. We shouldn't judge others based on our opinion of what they should be doing, but we should judge others based on the Word of God. If we don't compare what we see and hear with the Word of God, we will not know what we should or shouldn't follow. John didn't want any of his readers to follow false teaching. To avoid false teaching, John knew that his readers would have to judge others based on their actions. The reason we judge others shouldn't be to condemn them, but we should judge because we want to know and do what is right (vs 1).

John gave us different ways that allow us to see whether a person is a true believer or a false teacher. If a person is a true believer then they will believe that Jesus was God and that He came in the flesh to die on the cross for the sins of men. Many false religions will deny the deity of Christ. They will say that He was just another man, but won't say that he was God. This opens the door for some religious leaders to claim that

they are better than Christ. It also encourages other religions to say that others, such as Mary, should be worshiped like Christ is (vs 2-3).

Because we have been born again, and God has become our Father, we have the ability to know the truth. God has given us the Holy Spirit to help us determine what is true and what is false. We don't have to be afraid of false teachers, but need to stand against them. God has the power to give us the victory over evil and false teaching (vs 4).

People that are not saved can be easily won over by the false teachers, but those who are saved have the ability to discern the truth. John stated that those who have the “Spirit of truth” would listen to “us.” It appears the “us” is a reference to the apostles and the teachers of the truth. Basically, in our day it would say that those who have the “Spirit of truth” are those who listen to and follow the Word of God (vs 5-6).

## How Does this Apply to Me?

Have you been tricked into the idea that it isn't right to judge others? Have you let the world tell you that you are right no matter what you believe? Can you think of some churches that teach false teaching? A mainline denomination that has millions of members claims that Mary, the mother of Jesus, has as much right to forgive sins as Jesus does. Basically, they are claiming that she was God. As a Christian, we are called on by God to judge the teaching of others with the Word of God. When they don't match up, it is our responsibility to speak against them. I am not saying that you have to be a jerk about the matter, but God wants you to stand up for His Word. By letting false teaching go unchallenged, you are letting Satan win the battle. The problem that most Christians have is that they don't know what the Bible says. This makes it easy for Satan to sneak false beliefs into a Christian's life. With the Holy Spirit's help and your desire, you can know the truth.

## Suggestions for Prayer

- \* *Ask God to help you know the truth.*
- \* *Thank God for giving you the Holy Spirit who helps you discern what is true and what is false.*

## Thought for the day

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What are you not to believe (vs 1)?

What do you think John meant by using the term “spirits” (vs 1)?

What does it mean to “test the spirits” (vs 1)?

Why did John tell his readers to “test the spirits (vs 1)?

How do you think you can do this on a regular basis?

How will you know if something is from the Spirit of God (vs 2)?

Why would some people declare that Jesus has not come in the flesh (vs 2)?

Why do you think it is so important that Jesus was a real human being and yet He was also God?

What teaching is not from God (vs 3)?

What did John mean by “the spirit of the antichrist” (vs 3)?

Why did he say the spirit was in the world already (vs 3)?

Why do you think he addresses the readers as “little children” in verse 4?

What do you have the ability to overcome (vs 4)?

How do you have this ability (vs 4)?

Why do the false teachers teach the way they do (vs 5)?

Why do so many people listen to this false teaching (vs 5)?

How is true biblical teaching different than false teaching (vs 6)?

How can you know the “Spirit of truth” from the “spirit of error” (vs 6)?

## “God Is Love”

**Study:** I John 4:7-10

**Reading:** John 15:9-17, John 13:1-35

**Memory:** Romans 8

I am not a big fan of buying flowers. I am a very practical guy who would much rather buy clothes or something practical than something that will die in a couple of days. Now, I know all you ladies are thinking that you would hate to be married to me, but even though I don’t think they are practical, occasionally I have bought them for my wife. I don’t know if I have ever bought them for a special occasion though. When I have bought them for my wife it was just because I love her.

Today, we are going to see how we need to choose to love others because God chose to love us.

### What Does the Bible Say?

One of the main goals of a Christian should be to become like Christ. That is why John encouraged his readers to love one another. By saying “let us continue to love one another,” John was telling us that love is a choice. He wanted his readers to choose to love others. He then went on to explain how it should be easy for us to love others. True love comes from God, and, if we are His children, we have been given the ability to love others. Love not only comes out of being born again, but love also comes from knowing Him. The greater your relationship is with God, the more you will love other people (vs 7).

When a person does not love others it is either because they don’t know God or because they are out of fellowship with Him. If a person says that they can’t love someone else and they really mean it, they are either not a believer or are not living out their faith. Through the Holy Spirit, we have the ability to love all men. We don’t love others because we choose not to love them (vs 8).

John then went on to describe how God displayed His love towards us. God showed unsurpassing love to us by sending His Son to die on the cross for our sins. We were dead in our sins and bound for an eternity apart from God until Jesus shed His blood for our sins. Because of His

work on the cross, we can be saved from our sins. Jesus wasn't just killed for our sins, but He suffered one of the worst possible deaths. Not only did He physically suffer when His body was nailed to the tree, but He suffered far greater by taking the punishment for the sins of men upon Himself as He hung on the cross (vs 9).

God didn't suffer because we loved Him, but because He loved us. He loved us when we were unlovable. He didn't love us because of our good works and He didn't hate us because of the constant sins we committed against Him. He loved us because He chose to love us. That is why He sent Jesus to be the propitiation (substitute) for our sins. We did nothing to deserve His love, yet He chose to love us and was willing to sacrifice His Son so that we might have eternal life (vs 10).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

If I were to ask those around you if you are a loving person, what would they tell me? I understand that we all have different personalities and some of us naturally show more affection than others, but do you love others. John told us that if we want to measure a person's spiritual condition, our ruler would be love. The closer you are to God, the more you will love other people. It is sad to say, but love is missing in many churches in our generation. The love that should be in churches has been replaced by selfishness. The "me first" thought that abounds in our society has also become a prevalent thought in the lives of many Christians. The more you know God, the more you will realize that He loved you when you were undeserving of any love. Understanding that concept will also help you realize that you need to have an unconditional love for others. I challenge you to ask yourself and ask your closest friends if you are a loving person.

### **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* Thank God for giving you the ability to love others.
- \* Ask God to help you love others like you should.
- \* Praise God because He is love.

### **Thought for the day**

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How did John address his readers in verse 7?

Why do you think John addressed his readers in so many different ways?

What are we told to do (vs 7)?

Why do you think we are challenged to love others many times in the Scripture?

Where does love come from (vs 7)?

What do you think this means?

What did John say about those who truly love others (vs 7)?

Do you think this means that unbelievers can't truly love (vs 7)? Explain.

Who does not know God (vs 8)?

Why not (vs 9)?

Does this mean that a believer will always be perfect in the way that they love? Explain.

How did God show His love (vs 9)?

What is the result of the love of God (vs 9b)?

What do you think this means?

Why is it important to realize that God loved you before you loved Him (vs 10)?

What did God send His son to be (vs 10)?

Why was this necessary and so important (vs 10)?

# “A Life Tract”

**Study:** I John 4:11-14

**Reading:** I Corinthians 13:1-7, Proverbs 15:17

**Memory:** Romans 8

I have seen many gospel tracts over the years. There are all types of tracts that are published by many different churches and organizations. Some of these look good on the outside, but contain very shallow content on the inside. Others give great content, but don't look very attractive on the outside. When I have searched for tracts to use, I like to find the ones that are attractive on the outside and packed full of content on the inside.

Today, we are going to see how our lives and the way we love others will have a greater influence upon the unsaved world than the best tract that has ever been made.

## What Does the Bible Say?

Throughout the book of 1 John, John encouraged his readers to choose to love others. Since God loved us in such a way that we can't begin to comprehend, we should love others also. Whenever you get upset at a person and don't want to love them, stop to think about how much God loves you (vs 11).

Though no man has ever physically seen God, men should be able to see God through the way His children love others. People should be able to look at our lives and see how the love of God causes us to love others. Loving others is the major part of the maturing process of a Christian. A believer's level of spiritual growth often parallels the level of his love towards others. God hasn't just commanded us to love others, but has given us the Holy Spirit to give us the ability to love others (vs 12).

Many Christians question their salvation at some time in their lives. One of the proofs that God has given us to assure us of our salvation is the Holy Spirit. As a Christian, the Holy Spirit will comfort you, guide you and convict you. He will also give you the strength to love and care for others the way God loves and cares for them (vs 13).

John comes to a climax in his argument by telling us that one of the greatest proofs of the existence of God is the change that He makes in the

hearts and lives of men. Your life and the way you love others is far better than any witnessing tool, Gospel video or tract that you can find. It surpasses doctrinal disagreements and defeats an atheist's unbelief. Most people don't realize how much of an affect they can have on other people just by the way that they live their lives. When your life is characterized by love and concern for others, you will make a difference for the kingdom of God (vs 14).

## How Does this Apply to Me?

What type of message does your life give to others? How does your love for others display the fact that you have the Holy Spirit living inside of you? Whether you like it or not, people are watching you. If you are not helping the cause of Christ, you are hurting it. It is easy to compare your life to others and think that you are okay because you are better than they are. But if your life does not display the love of Christ towards others, then you are hurting the cause of the Gospel. God doesn't say that people will know you are a Christian by how many times you go to church or how many Bible verses you can quote. He tells you that others will know you are a Christian by the way that you love people. Ask yourself again today how others view you. Do they view you as a loving person, or do they view you as a selfish person? Keep in mind that you will never be perfect in the way that you love others, but you should constantly be seeking to grow in the way you love others. The key to knowing whether or not your life is bringing glory to God is when your life is characterized by love.

## Suggestions for Prayer

- \* *Thank God for giving you the ability to love through the Holy Spirit.*
- \* *Ask God to help you become more loving.*
- \* *Praise God because He is love.*

## Thought for the day

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How does John address his readers (vs 11)?

Why do you think he uses this term many times in this letter?

What did John declare about God's love (vs 11)?

What should you do as a response to God's loves (vs 11)?

Describe what it will look like to love others around you today.

Who has no man seen (vs 12)?

What does your love for others prove about God in your life (vs 12)?

What do you think the end of verse 12 means?

*\*\*\*The idea of "perfected" means "to make complete," It is God who gives you the ability to love others. Without His help, love is very difficult, but with His help your love can be profound.*

How do others view God because of the way that you live your life?

How can you know that you abide in God and that the Holy Spirit is in you (vs 13)?

*\*\*\*The fact that you can have a deep love for others is evidence that the Spirit of God is living inside of you.*

What has God given you (vs 13)?

Why is it important to realize that the Holy Spirit gives you the ability to love others?

What did John and the other apostles testify of (vs 14)?

Why is this testimony so powerful?

## ***"Perfect Love"***

**Study:** I John 4:15-21

**Reading:** Romans 5:1-10, Ephesians 1:6-14

**Memory:** Romans 8

**O**ne of the greatest things about my relationship with my wife is the fact that we attempt to practice perfect love. This means that when I do something, no matter how bad it is, she will always forgive me, and I will do the same for her. I don't live with the fear of what might happen if she found out some things about my life. I have met people who have never revealed some of their deepest secrets to their spouses because they are afraid of what their spouses will do. They go through life not knowing the fulness that they can have that comes from perfect love.

Today, we are going to see how God loves us in a perfect way. He will never reject us. We will see that this is because of the fact that He chose to love us while we were still sinners and while we were His enemies.

### **What Does the Bible Say?**

Just because a person loves others doesn't mean that they are a child of God. They must also confess that Jesus is the Son of God. Many religions believe that Jesus was a good man or a prophet, but do not believe that He was the only Son of God (vs 15). The love of God was displayed by sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. When people realize what God has done for them, how much God loves them and believe in Jesus Christ, they will be loving Christians. God has sent the Holy Spirit to live inside of us, and since God is love, we have love abiding inside of us (vs 16).

The more we love others, the more mature we will become as Christians, and the more we will become like Christ. When we become like Christ, we will have more confidence in Him (vs 17). Once we have become children of God, we have nothing to fear. We know that God loves us with a perfect love. This means that He will love us no matter what we do. We never have to fear that He will reject us when we mess up and sin. When we are fearful, whether it is in human relations or our

relationship with God, it is because we don't have or understand perfect love (vs 18). We need to understand that God loved us first. As humans, we have a "me first" nature. We sometimes think that God loves us because of what we have done. That is why John reminded us that God chose to love us before we chose to love Him. God displayed perfect love by choosing us when we had done so many things to hurt Him (vs 19).

Since God displayed perfect love to us, we should attempt to display that type of love to others. When we don't love others, we aren't loving God like we should. A love for God and a love for others are inseparable (vs 20). If we love God, we should also love others (vs 21).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

Is your life characterized by perfect and godly love? Are others afraid to tell you things because they fear how you will react? As a Christian, you should try to love others like Christ loved them. No one should be afraid to talk to you or ask you questions because they are fearful of what your response will be. In fact, others should know that they can always talk to you honestly about what is going on in their lives without being afraid of what your response will be.

Are you afraid of God? Do you find yourself doing things to try to appease Him so He won't be angry with you? You have no reason to be afraid of God because perfect love doesn't involve fear. No matter how bad you think the sins that you have committed against God are, He is always waiting with open arms for you to restore your relationship with Him. You should live for Him and serve Him out of love rather than out of fear.

## **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* Thank God for loving you no matter what you do.
- \* Ask God to help you love like He loves.
- \* Praise God because He is the Author of perfect love.

## **Thought for the day**

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What does it mean to confess that Jesus is the Son of God (vs 15)?

Why do you think this is so important?

What does John say is the result of confessing that Jesus is God (vs 15)?

What should you come to know and believe (vs 16)?

Why do you think it is hard for many people to accept the love of God?

What do you think it means that "God is love" (vs 16)?

Who does God abide in (vs 16)?

How does our love grow more perfect (vs 16-17)?

*\*\*\*When we choose to abide in Christ, (living in obedience and growing in Him) our love will grow.*

How can you grow in confidence about your eternal destiny (vs 17)?

What do you think the end of verse 17 means?

*\*\*\*Jesus lived in the world and is with God the Father. As we live in the world and believe in Him, we will also be with God the Father.*

What does not exist in perfect love (vs 18)?

What does perfect love do (vs 18)? Why?

Are you living in perfect love? Explain.

Why do you love God according to verse 19?

What does John say about hating others (vs 20)?

What command has God given (vs 21)?



# “Attitude Is Everything”

**Study:** I John 5:1-4

**Reading:** Job 13:13-16, Proverbs 23:7

**Memory:** Romans 8

**F**or several years, my wife and I went shopping on the Friday morning after Thanksgiving. I don't normally enjoy shopping, but because of the deals, I enjoyed shopping on that day. As we headed down to stand in lines to shop one year, my wife wasn't having a very good morning. We had decided the night before that she would drop me off at one store and she would wait at another. She told me that she wasn't feeling very well and she began complain about our plan. She didn't really have a desire to stand out in the cold for forty minutes until the store opened. After griping for a little bit, she decided that it was time to change her attitude and look on the positive side of things. She began to think about how she could be standing out in the cold just so she could get a bowl of soup like many people have to do. Her attitude changed and we had a wonderful time together that day and found a few good deals.

Today, we are going to see how our attitudes affect how we think and we act.

## What Does the Bible Say?

God doesn't just want us to know that Jesus was His only Son, but He also wants us to know that Jesus was the Christ, the Promised Messiah. Beginning in Genesis 3:15, God had promised a deliverer to come to earth to rescue people from the grip of Satan. The Jews had been looking for the Messiah since God had founded the nation of Israel. The problem was, and still is, that many Jews rejected the very One they were and still are looking for (vs 1).

We have seen how John continually emphasized the need for Christians to love God. We have also seen that we need to choose to love God. The way we choose to love God and love others is by obeying God's commandments (vs 2). We know that we love God when we obey His commandments with a joyful heart. When we obey out of force or because we have to, we don't have the love for God that we need to have.

Obeying God shouldn't be looked at as a burden, but should be looked at as a privilege. Remember that this all comes down to a choice. We choose whether or not we want to spend time with Him so that we can know Him in a greater way. Once we begin to know Him, our choice to love Him is made easier. We also choose what type of attitude we will have as we obey His commands (vs 3).

All Christians have the power to overcome the evil that is in the world. We don't have to live in the pain and the misery that sin brings into the lives of men. Instead, through our faith in Jesus, we can have the victory over Satan. Many Christians choose to live in misery and constant hurt because they don't trust God to do what He says He will do. When we look to Him in faith, we will realize that He will answer every promise that He has made to us. He will take care of our needs, give us victory over sin and answer our prayers (vs 4).

## How Does this Apply to Me?

What is your attitude towards God and the Christian life? Do you view the Bible as a strict set of rules that keep you from having fun, or do you view it as a source of joy and strength? Your attitude about God and the Bible will affect the way that you live and the way that you serve God. I know many people who grew up in Christian homes, but turned away from God when they entered into their teen and young adult years. One of the main reasons that happened was because they had an improper view of God and His Word. When you realize that God loves you with a love you can't comprehend, you will also realize that He wants what is best for you. Because He wants what is best for you, He has given you His Word to show you how you can have the joy that comes from Him. There will be times in your life where you will need to stop for a moment and evaluate why you are doing things. You will find that there will be times where you need to change your attitude. When you do that, it will make all the difference.

## Suggestions for Prayer

\* *Thank God for the great love that He shows you on a daily basis.*

## Thought for the day

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Who is born of God (vs 1)?

Why is believing that Jesus was the Messiah so important (vs 1)?

Does this mean that anyone that says they believe is saved?

*\*\*\*This all depends what the understanding of “believes” is. True belief in Christ as the Son of God is more than just a mental acknowledgment. James tells us that the demons believe in God and tremble, but the demons are not children of God. The point John is emphasizing a person can not be a true believer if they are not willing to declare that Jesus was the only Son of God.*

What else is a mark of a true believer (vs 1)?

Why do you think the New Testament places such a great emphasis on loving other believers (vs 1)?

Why do you think John started verse 2 the way he did?

*\*\*\*He just finished saying that we know we are born of God if we love our brothers. The beginning of verse 2 was just John’s way of referencing those who are children of God.*

What two things give evidence that you are a child of God (vs 2)?

What two things does John say display our love of God (vs 3)?

- 1.
- 2.

Why is it important to realize that we should not dread following His commandments (vs 3)?

What do all believers have the ability to do (vs 4)?

What gives us this ability (vs 4)?

What do you think it means to overcome the world?

Romans 8

*21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. 26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

