

Apply The Word

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EIGHT^{ON} VIII

GOSPEL HOPE from ROMANS 8

Message Info

Title:

All is Secure

Speaker:

Doug Plank

Date:

May 1, 2022

Scriptures:

Romans 8:31-37

Theme: We are secure in Jesus, beyond all doubt: rejoice!

Introduction: Down deep, we all want good, and we want to be able to keep the good we have. In a word, we all know and feel the need for deep and abiding security. In addressing that desire, Paul offers a series of questions that are designed to give us the answers to our assurance and security as Christians.

Here are 4 sets of questions to guide our way:

1. Who can be against us?

Paul opens: what can we say to these things? Behind this question is the assumed answer, "yes and amen!" The blessings of the gospel compel our worship. He also asks: if God is for us, who can be against us? No answer is given because it is so obvious—God's favor is everything.

2. Will God give us all we need?

The everyday needs of life are enough to regularly tempt us. Paul's answer: since the Father gave us his Son (meeting our greatest need), we can be confident that he will provide for all of our lesser needs.

3. Who can accuse or condemn us?

We know that we should be condemned for our guilt; but Paul asks: who shall bring any charge? And who is to condemn? The answer is: no one. The justifying grace of God in Christ has taken care of all of our guilt and made us righteous in him. We are regularly tempted to look elsewhere for comfort and hope; but the true and lasting good is found only and fully in Christ.

4. Who can separate us from Christ's love?

Consider the worst things that can and do happen to Christians in this life? Paul helps us to consider and face them. And then he replies: none of these can separate us from Christ's love. In fact, we are "more than conquerors"—we triumph in him. We are inclined to overestimate our sufferings and to underestimate the power of God and the glory to come. We need a better accounting of this life and of Christ's love.

Questions:

1. How are you anxious? What worries you?
2. How would you like to grow so you have confidence and rejoice in Christ more?
3. Consider making a list of your troubles and consciously entrusting them to the Lord in prayer.