

ROMANS 8:34 WHO IS HE WHO CONDEMNS?

INTRO:

- We have now arrived at the 6th of 7 questions.
- "Who is he who condemns?"
- Paul answers this with 4 foundational questions to eliminate any doubt the Christian may have.

ANSWER 1 IT IS CHRIST WHO DIED.

- This is Paul's first answer or proof to the question.
- If Christ died for us, certainly He will not condemn us. This is Paul's point.
- And why did Christ die for us? To take away our sin. To save us from our sin and its penalty.
- He is the great Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He came to save His people from their sin.
- On the cross God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself.
- Also, God placed those who would come to saving faith in Christ, in Jesus on the cross.
 - Gal. 2:20, Rom. 6:6
- The Greek word used here for crucified in both of these verses is the word *sus-ta-ra-oh*., meaning to crucify together with. 5x.
- The truth, "it is Christ who died," was Paul's passion in life and in preaching.
- We read of this in **1 Cor. 2:2** and again in **1 Cor. 1:23-24**.
- As mentioned last week vs 33 depicts as it were a heavenly courtroom scene and God the Father as the main figure.
- Now in vs. 34 the courtroom scene continues with Christ as the main figure.
- Who is it that could judge or condemn us? For all judgment has been committed to Him.
 - For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son Jn. 5:22
 - has given Him authority to execute judgment. Jn. 5:27a
- As what did Christ die? A Martyr? No. He died as a Substitute.
 - 1 Thes. 5:9.... Gal. 2:20

ANSWER 2 AND FURTHERMORE IS ALSO RISEN.

- This is Paul's second answer or proof to the question.
- The resurrection of Christ is the central truth of the Christian confession.
- And the truths just looked at regarding His crucifixion would lose all power and meaning without the resurrection.
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- This was constantly confessed and confirmed by the early church and the apostles.

- Acts. 1:22, 2:32, 3:15, 4:33, 5:30, 1 cor. 15:6
- Paul would not, could not proclaim the death of Christ unless he could also declare that Christ was risen again.
- The death of Christ removed the ground for our condemnation because He died for our offences, but it was His resurrection which proved His death was efficacious, that is, accepted, effected, that for which He died.
- He was raised for our justification.
 - Rom. 4:25, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.
 - Rom. 5:10, For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.
 - The fact that He is alive, accepted,
 - The fact that His life in us saves us, the hope of glory.
- Christ's resurrection was the sign that our sin debt had been paid, the payment accepted, the bond against us cancelled.
 - Col. 2:14, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.
- Notice the importance that is placed on the resurrection here in scripture; "furthermore" or some versions, "rather"
- He died yes, but furthermore, rather, He was raised. Amazing.
- The atoning work of Christ was in itself a finished work. It supplied all that holy justice demanded.
- Nothing could be added to its perfection, Jesus said, "I have finished the work you gave me to do. (Jn. 17:4)
- The fact of the resurrection of Christ is solid evidence that His substitutionary death perfectly appeased and pleased the Father.
- We now have the confidence of real faith that we stand justified and free of any condemnation.

ANSWER 3 who is even at the right hand of God.

- The third great fact or proof is Christ's ascension into heaven.
 - Acts 1:9-11, Lk. 24:50-52
- There was an interval of 40 days between the resurrection and the ascension, where Jesus show Himself alive with many infallible proofs. Acts 1:3, 1 Cor. 15:3-8
- The resurrection and ascension were monumental events of His exaltation and the Christian faith.
- Resurrection event declared He was no longer held bound to death, the Ascension declares he shares in the eternity, authority of the Godhead.
- Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God. Heb. 4:14
- The right hand of God stresses or indicates His sovereignty and dominion, the glory with which He is crowned.

- The phrase, Jesus at the right hand of the Father appears in the NT at least 13X.
 - **Acts 7:55, 56.** Acts 5:31, Col. 3:1, Heb. 1:3, 1 Ptr. 3:22
- With all authority resting with Christ at the right hand of the Father, His brethren are eternally safe, none can overturn His verdict nor pluck them from His hand. "No condemnation."
- What stronger assurance does the believer need that no condemnation could succeed when His Savior, advocate and Fried sits at the right hand of the Father at the highest place of honor and power?
- The revolutions of the planets, the destiny of empires are all guided by His hand, by Him all things consist, hold together and He is for us.

ANSWER 4 who also makes intercession for us.

- And finally, the fourth fact or proof of no condemnation and that none can rise up and condemn the elect. He makes intercession for us.
- He who was once put to death for us on the cross is now alive, ascended, glorified, enthroned and has all power and authority.
- He continues His High Priestly activities and makes intercession for His brethren.
 - Heb. 2:18, Heb. 4:14-16,
- See the O. T. shadow and type of Christ Jesus our high Priest entering into the holy of holies to intercede for us.
 - **Lev. 16:12-13.**
 - **Heb. 9:24.**
- Who can fully know the blessings that flow through the intercession of the Son of God for us? By them we remain faithful etc.
- What love, what sympathy, are and interest in all our concerns does He shed on us.
- Tried, tempted, travailing believer, Jesus makes intercession for you.
- To complete the redemption Christ purchased for us, all grace needed is brought within the work of His intercession
- He ever lives to make intercession for us.
 - Heb. 7:25; Therefore, He is also able to save [\[a\]](#) to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
- He is our unfailing advocate with the Father.
 - 1 JN. 2:1 And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
- The word intercession used here is the same word as used regarding the Holy Spirits intercession for us. (vs. 25-26)
- The very presence of Jesus before the Father, the crucified Lord of glory, still displaying His wounds of redemption and reconciliation for His people speak, and cry out on behalf of His people.

- Rev. 5:6, And I looked, [a]and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain
- Heb. 9:24, For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* [a]copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;
- These wounds are the pleas which Christ employs on our behalf and such please the Father will not deny.
- Therefor the man or woman who is in Christ Jesus may lift his heart and eyes to the throne of judgment without fear of condemnation.
 - Isa. 54:17
- How staggering is the thought that the second Person of the blessed Trinity so occupies Himself with the concerns of His Church, His people, almighty God stooping to minister for us and to us.
- Our hateful accuser may stand at your right side accusing and condemning, but our Great Advocate stands at the right hand of God most high and there He pleads for us.
- We stand uncondemned and secure for our Redeemer died, is risen, ascended to God's right hand and there He intercedes for us.
- There is therefore no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus.

CONCLUSION: