

29 May 2022

Our Vision: GRACE – Empowering – Romans 8:31-39

v31: If God is for us, who can be against us?

How do you view the person of God? Does this image reflect what scripture says about him? Give examples from the psalms.

v32 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?

Can you think of an instant when someone has been extraordinarily generous towards you. Was their gift costly to themselves? Are we able to voice from this something of God's generosity towards us?

v33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Are you able to express what justification means?

v34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that – who was raised – at the right hand of God, who is interceding for us.

How do we know for sure that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice on the cross? How does that make us feel?

v35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

Share with the group something of what you know of any of the above.

Do all these questions make a difference as far as our walk with Jesus is concerned? Do they encourage us to boldly use all our gifts to serve others and to enable them to thrive in this family of which we are a member?

John Wesley wrote the following letter from his deathbed to William Wilberforce to encourage him in his prolonged fight against slavery in England:

“Unless the divine power has raised you up.... I see not how you can go through your glorious enterprise in opposing that [abominable practice of slavery], which is the scandal of religion, of England, and of human nature. Unless God has raised you up for this very thing, you will be worn out by the opposition of men and devils. But if God be for you, who can be against you? Are all of them together stronger than God? Go on in the name of God, and in the power of His might.”

What is 'the divine power' that John Wesley speaks of? Can you give examples of this 'divine power' in your own life?