WHO CAN ACCUSE, CONDEMN, AND SEPARATE?

- *Rom 8:33* Who can <u>bring an accusation</u> against God's elect? God is the One who justifies.
- *Rom 8:34* Who is the one who <u>condemns</u>? Christ Jesus is the One who died, but even more, has been raised; He also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us.
- *Rom 8:35* Who can <u>separate</u> us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

Paul here is revealing the plan of our enemy. It is a progressive plan. If he can successfully do the first, then he can move on to the second, and then finally try to accomplish the third. Paul asked the question, "Who can bring an accusation against God's elect?" It is implied in this statement that no one can successfully bring an accusation against a Christian. Why? It is because God has justified every believer. Justification means he has declared each believer innocent and in right standing with Himself. He has made each believer just as he ought to be before Himself. This is not true of our actions or performance but in our identity in Christ. Satan is the accuser of the brethren. [Rev. 12:10] Satan points a finger at something we did or said and accuses us. He accuses us not of what we did, but of being something. If we told a lie, he will accuse us of being a liar. If we failed at something, he will accuse us of being a failure. His attempt is to make us take upon the belief that our identity is altogether different than what God's Word says it is. God calls us righteous, but when we commit a sinful act, Satan accuses us of being a sinner. If Satan can successfully accuse us in our identity he can then bring condemnation. Condemnation is a sentence against us as a person instead of an action we did. Satan cannot successfully bring condemnation upon us before God. because there is NO CONDEMNATION IN CHRIST JESUS. [Romans 8:1] He cannot condemn us before God, but we can accept condemnation by believing his lies. When we believe the accusations about our identity then we will experience guilt, condemnation, and shame about who we are. Once a Christian has accepted guilt, condemnation, and shame then Satan will try to convince the believer that he or she is now separated from God. Nothing can actually separate

a Christian from God. Paul clearly states this in **Romans 8:38-39**. However, a Christian can feel separated from God because of condemnation and guilt. Many Christians feel they are alienated from God because of what they have done. This however is not the truth.

2Co 5:19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, <u>not imputing their trespasses to them</u>, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

Col 1:21 And you, who once were <u>alienated and enemies in your mind</u> by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

God revealed to Paul that in Christ He was reconciling the world to Himself and was not imputing trespasses to mankind. Sins are no longer the barrier between God and man. The barrier now was Jesus Christ. If anyone will accept Christ and the reconciliation then they will be saved. People today believe in their own minds that they are separated from God because of their wicked works. This is not the case. God has been reconciled to us. A sinner must simply believe and accept that reconciliation. It is the same with Christians. Many Christians have believed the accusations of the enemy against them. They have accepted condemnation and guilt, and now they believe in their mind that they are separated from God. When a Christian believes this then the progressive plan of the enemy is accomplished. When we feel separated from God then our faith will not work. Faith works by love. [Gal. 5:6] If we do not feel God loves us or is separated from us then we will not trust Him and we will fail to lay hold of His grace.

In all these things [accusations, condemnation, and the threat of separation] we are more than conquerors! [Romans 8:37] If God be for us, who or what can be against us! Boldly declare before your enemy that you are righteous through the blood of Jesus. Boldly declare that Jesus is interceding for you and His blood is speaking better things than that of Abel's blood. [Heb. 12:24] Abel's blood cried out for vengeance. [Gen. 4:10] Christ's blood cries out for mercy in your behalf! Boldly declare that nothing and no one can separate you from the love of

Christ. The only one that can separate you from God's love is **YOU**! You can't stop God from loving you, but you can stop the experiencing of God's love in your heart if you believe you are separated from Him. Don't believe the lie any longer. If you refuse to allow Satan to accuse you and condemn you, then He can never separate you. Hallelujah!