More Than Conquerors Over Everything: Lamentable Suffering



Romans 8:35 - 37

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Romans 8:38 - 39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We conquer in lamentable suffering through Christ.

1. We are the ones in question

Romans 8:36

"Who can separate <u>us</u> from the love of Christ?"

2. In Lamentable Suffering



"We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

Romans 8:36

As it is written, "For your sake we are **being killed** all the day long; we are **considered** as sheep to be slaughtered."

See: Psalm 44

Romans 8:37 "no, *in all these things*..."

3. We conquer

Romans 8:37

No [instead], in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Romans 5:5

And hope does not **put us to shame**, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

See also: Romans 9:33, 10:9 - 11

4. Through Christ



Why this matters.

Clarity and Courage

Clarity: Suffering is clouding

3 "tracks" in Lamentable Suffering



Wretchedness will divide us

the Curse will overwhelm me

I will conquer through Christ

Courage: doing what must be done

After death, resurrection. After shame, glory.

The hope of resurrection comes through the death of faith.

Only those that die by faith in the death of Christ participate in his resurrection triumph.

Romans 8:12 - 14

"So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you aput to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are aled by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Romans 6:4-5

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Luke 9:23 - 24

Then Jesus said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. but whoever loses his life for me will save it.

Colossians 3:1 - 4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Philippians 3:10 - 12

"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me."

Godly life feels like a slaughter.

That's because it is.

Life is either the slaughter of sacrifice or of judgment.

James 5:4-5

Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter.

Acts 8:32

The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture:

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.