"A Love that Conquers All" Romans 8:35-39 February 9th, 2025 – Pastor Nick Neves

Romans 8:35-39 ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;

we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Paul structures the conclusion of chapter 8 around four "who" questions:

- 1. Vs. 31, WHO can be against us?
- 2. Vs. 33, WHO shall bring a charge against God's elect?
- 3. Vs. 34, WHO can condemn?
- 4. Vs. 35, WHO shall _____ us from Christ's love?

Any threat that could rise up against the Christian really boils down to one crucial thing: can anything really threaten our ability to remain in the love of Christ? A conqueror is not someone who is able to _____ every battle. A conqueror is one who marches right into the danger of the battlefield knowing that he will come out the other side VICTORIOUS.

WORD FOCUS: 'more than conquerors' – $\dot{\upsilon}\pi\epsilon_0 \nu\iota\kappa\tilde{\omega}\mu\epsilon\nu$

From the Greek words ὑπέρ (huper, meaning "_____" or "_____") and νικάω (nikao, meaning "to conquer" or "to overcome").

Who is the only one who could separate us from the love of God? The God who freely gave it! And yet we know that God keeps His promises. If our hope is in Him, then there is nothing in creation that can separate us from His love.

The end of chapter 8 represents the conclusion of a larger train of thought that Paul began in Romans 5:1-5.

Paul's quotation of Psalm 44 here in verse 36 might seem, on the surface, to be counter productive, but Psalm 44 has much to contribute to our perspective on these things.

Psalm 44:1-3 – A reflection on the mighty things God HAS done to sustain His people.

Psalm 44:22-26 – A series of desperate questions: why, O Lord, are You not showing up for your people right now?

Psalm 44:4-8 – An acknowledgement that the faithful only triumph in so much as the superior power of God is at work in and ______ them.