

## SUPERSTARS FOR CHRIST

“But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.” (8:37)

The Greek verb for *overwhelmingly conquer* is (*hupernikao/ p.a.ind*). It is a compound verb (*huper/ super*) and *nikao/ victory* or *super victory*).

Professional football has the super bowl to provide a super victory and super stars.  
Professional baseball has the World Series with the same goal and results.

The church has the angelic conflict to provide the super victory and superstars.

*Like a good coach preparing his team for the super game, Paul reminded the Roman Church why they should play to the level of superstar status.*

Paul laid out the game plan by using the Greek rhetorical question and answer debate technique in Rom.8:31-39.

<b>We will study this debate technique by following Paul’s three rhetorical questions and answers.</b>
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- First question and answer (8:31-32) – “If God is for us, who is against us?”
- Second question and answer (8:33-34) – “Who will bring a charge against God’s elect?”
- Third question and answer (8:35-39) – “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”

- 1. The first rhetorical question was “If (1cc/ and its true) God is for (*huper +abl./ on behalf of/ positional truth/ Col.3:3; John 10:28-30*) us (*believers*), who is against us?” (31/ no verbs in question places the emphasis on subject and object connection). Note the answer given before the answer?**

Before the answer is given, Paul wants the question asked, “*what shall we say to this thing?*”(8:31)

Paul gives the answer in 8:32 – “*He who did not spare (*phaidomai/ a.m.ind/ to spare from sacrifice*) His own Son, but (*alternative*) delivered (*paradidomi (a.a.ind)*) Him up for (*huper +abl/ subst.*) us ALL (*unlimited atonement; Titus 2:11*), how (*logical interrogative adverb*) will He not (***ouchi/ expects positive answer***) also with (*sun+inst./ assoc/ positional truth*) Him freely give (*charizomai/ f.m.ind*) us ALL THINGS?”*

This is an A FORTIORI argument (lesser to the greater). Since God gave us the most grace at salvation, He can now give us MORE THAN THE MOST of grace in the CWL.

- 2. The second rhetorical question was “Who will bring a charge (*egkaleo/ f.a.ind*) against God’s elect?” (33-34).**

Before the answer is given, Paul wants to ask, “*what shall we say to this thing?*”

Paul gives the answer with a question in 8:33-34. First – “God is the One who justifies (*dikaioo/ p.a.ptc.*) (no verb and same rule).

*God alone justifies or acquits the sinner from the 13 judicial charges of AOS. He alone imputes His righteousness on the one believing he gospel of grace salvation (Rom.1:16; 5:8-10; Eph.2:8-9; 2 Cor.5:21).*

Then the follow-up question followed by the answer (this is called an epidiorthosis rhetorical/ growing asperity in Paul's argument) – “who is the one who condemns (ho katakrino/ p.a.ptc)?” Christ Jesus is He who died (ho apothnesko/ a.a.ptc), yes rather who was raised (egeiro/ a.p.ptc), who is (eimi/ p.a.ind) at the right hand of God, who also intercedes (entugchano/ p.a.ind) for (huper+abl. of subst.) us (believers).”

*Jesus Christ is the only one qualified to condemn the believer and He never will because He intercedes for us (Rom.8:1; Heb.7:25; 1 John 2:1-2; 1 Tim.2:4-6).*

**3. The third rhetorical question was – “who shall separate (chorizo/ f.a.ind) us from (apo+abl.of separation) the love of Christ (tes agapes tou christou)?” (35-39).**

The third rhetorical question did not ask – “What shall separate Christ from the love of the believer?” (Rev.2:4/ left first love)

Before the answer is given, Paul wants to ask this question, “what shall we say to this thing?”

Paul listed seven things that the Roman believers faced (tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness (lack of proper clothing for weather), peril (dangers of life and limb), or sword (death penalty).

*Undeserved suffering is an ageless common problems for believes (Rom.8:36; Psa.44:22; Heb.11:36-38)  
God has provided for every situation and type of suffering of life (Rom.5:1-5; 1 Pet.1:6-7; James 1:2-4).*

Not only can these things NOT separate us from the love of Christ but they can help us become SUPERSTARS FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD.

At this point Paul sets before us the goal and reward for winning in the angelic game – “But in ALL these things we overwhelmingly conquer THROUGH HIM WHO LOVED US.” (8:37)

**There is nothing that can cause Christ our Lord to cease loving the believer.**

**Paul makes this point with 10 more things in 8:38-39** – “for I am convinced (peitho/ perf.p.ind) that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, not things to come, nor powers, nor heights, nor depth, nor any other (hetera) created things, shall be able (dunamai/ f.m.ind) to separate (chorizo/ a.a.infin) us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**GOD'S PLAN IS GREATER THAN ANY MAJOR EVENT IN LIFE, EVEN DEATH.**

**BE A SUPERSTAR FOR CHRIST, IT IS A CHOICE!**