Romans 8:33-34

Intro. The Roman letter shows the absolute necessity of New Testament Christianity. In the Hebrew letter you have the superiority of New Testament Christianity to any other system of religious life. In these two you have the summation of Christianity to the world, the reason for it, the need for it, and the superiority of it. The eighth chapter of Romans speaks of condemnation and justification. Our discussion will center around Romans 8:33-34 “33Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. 34Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.”

I. THAT CHRIST DIED.
   A. No subject of greater importance in the scriptures.
      1. 175 direct references in the New Testament to the death of Christ upon the cross.
      2. Hundreds of other allusions to it.
   B. God’s expression of love and grace to man is the death of Christ.
      1. Rom. 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”
      2. John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”
      3. Salvation comes through that love.
         a. That is the Gospel which is to be preached; 1 Cor. 15:1-3 “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;”
         b. That Gospel is God’s power to save; Rom. 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
   C. Christ died for our sins.
      1. 2 Cor. 5:21 “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”
      2. Christ took upon himself our sins; a vicarious death.
      3. 1 Pet. 3:18 “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.”
      4. Heb. 2:9 “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour, that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”
   D. If one is in Christ, he has no condemnation and has been justified by him, so Paul asks this question in Rom. 8:33-34a “Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. 34Who is he that condemneth?”
II. THAT HE IS RISEN AGAIN

A. The death and resurrection of Christ, they are view as one event, is the central theme of the Bible.
   1. The Old Testament looks forward to it.

B. 1 Cor. 15:1-4 “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
   1. From this Paul enters a discussion of that death and resurrection and its effect on man.
   2. Because Christ was raised, we will be raised.

C. It is the proof that he is God’s Son; Rom. 1:4 “And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:”
   1. Acts 17:31 “Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”
   2. We can prove from history the resurrection.

D. 1 Pet. 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,”
   1. Hope embraces both:
      a. Expectation
      b. Assurance or confidence
   2. Our confidence and expectation of heaven is that we have been born again but based on the resurrection of Christ.

III. THAT CHRIST IS ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.

A. When Christ died and was raised, he was raised to ascend to God.
   1. Acts 1:9-11 “And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”
   2. Heb. 1:1-5 “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; 4Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?”
   3. This was in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy.

B. Zec. 6:13 “Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”
   1. His relationship to man is that of priest, thus to make propitiation of satisfaction for our sins by His death.
   2. He is the prophet of God to man.
   3. He is the king.
C. He has been established as the only begotten Son of God, the one and only Savior of man.
   1. Rom. 1:4 “And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead;”
   2. Heb. 1:3 “Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”

IV. MAKETH INTERCESSION FOR US.
   A. Heb. 7:25 “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”
   B. 1 John 2:1-2 “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”
   1. The word advocate means one who makes intercession or pleads our case.
   2. As a lawyer pleading his case, for his client, before the court.

Conclusion: If we have Christ, who is he that condemns? We have justification, thus, Rom. 8:1 “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” How do we get into Christ? Rom. 6:3-4 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”