



## The Greatest Letter Ever Written!

Ro 8:31-37 "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died-more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

If we grant full weight to the verses that imply a conclusion and assume them to be of equal standing as the verses that explicitly teach a conclusion, we'll run into contradictions and illogical paradoxes. Instead, we need our thoughts to be first shaped by explicit verses, and then use the implicit verses to flesh out "the rest of the story".

## CHART

	Implicit Positive	Explicit Positive	Implicit Negative	Explicit Negative
God's Sovereignty	Verses that imply God is sovereign Gen 18:14 Ex 4:11 Eccl 7:13-14 Jer 32:27 Lam 3:37-38 Amos 3:6 Rom 9:19	Verses that explicitly state God is sovereign Ex 4:11 Deut 32:39 2 Chr 20:6 Ps 103:19 Ps 115:3 Ps 135:6 Isa 45:5-7 Isa 46:10 Dan 4:35 Luke 1:37 Acts 4:27-28 Acts 17:26 Rev 17:17	Verses that imply God is not sovereign Gen 6:6 Ex 32:14 1 Sam 15:11 2 Sam 24:16 Jonah 3:10	Verses that explicitly state God is not sovereign (No verses!)
Man's Free Will	Verses that imply Man has free will Deut 30:19 Josh 24:15 John 3:16 John 5:40 Acts 2:21 Acts 3:19 Acts 16:31 Rev 22:17	Verses that explicitly state Man has free will (No verses!)	Verses that imply Man does not have free will <b>Ex 10:1-2</b> <b>Ex 12:36</b> <b>Ex 14:17</b> <b>Deut 2:30</b> <b>Deut 29:4</b> <b>Josh 24:19</b> <b>2 Chr 25:20</b> <b>Ps 105:25</b> <b>Isa 44:28</b> <b>Isa 63:17</b>	Verses that explicitly state Man does not have free will Prov 21:1 Isa 6:10 Eze 36:26-27 Mark 4:11-12 John 6:44 John 6:65 John 8:43 John 10:26 John 12:39-40 Rom 6:17 Rom 8:7-8 Rom 9:18 Rom 11:8 Rev 17:17

Ezek 11:19-20 "And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, so that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

Eph 4:17-18 "Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart."

## V31 "Since God is for us who can be against us"?

V32 "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?"

2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power <u>has given</u> us everything we need for life and godliness <u>through</u> <u>our knowledge of him who called us by his own</u> <u>glory and goodness</u>." V33 "Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies."

V34 "Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us."

Ro 8:1 "There is therefore now <u>no</u> <u>condemnation</u> for those who are in Christ Jesus." V35 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?"

Lk 12:34 "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Phil 1:29 "For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake"

Acts 14:21-22 "They preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples and encouraging them to continue in the faith. "We must endure many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said."

Jhn 16:33 "I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take courage; I have overcome the world!"

V37-39 "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 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."

V34-35 "Christ Jesus is the one who died —more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?...." Ps 91:5-6 "You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday." V35 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?"

V38 "neither death nor life...."

V36 "For your sake we are being killed all the day long: we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

