

# Romans 8:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Analysis

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**Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord** (oúte húpsōma oúte báthos oúte tis ktísis hetéra dynésetai hēmâs chōrísai apò tēs agápēs toû theoû tēs en Christō Iēsoû tō kyriō hēmōn)—Húpsōma (height) and báthos (depth) may refer to astronomical/astrological terms (celestial and subterranean powers) or simply spatial totality—nothing above or below can separate. Ktísis hetéra ("any other creature") is all-inclusive: nothing in all creation can sever the bond.

**The love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**—The ultimate ground of security: tēs agápēs toû theoû (God's love), not our love for God. This love is en Christō Iēsoû (in Christ Jesus)—mediated through the Son, secured by His finished work. Tō kyriō hēmōn (our Lord)—Christ's lordship guarantees His love's permanence. Believers are united to Christ (6:5), justified by His blood (5:9), kept by His power (John 10:28-29). Nothing can separate because God's love is unconditional, Christ's work is finished, and the Spirit's seal is permanent (Ephesians 1:13-14).

## Historical Context

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This verse is Christianity's most comprehensive assurance statement. Against works-righteousness (salvation maintained by performance), Paul affirms salvation secured by God's sovereign love. The Reformers' doctrine of perseverance of the

saints rests here: those truly in Christ cannot be lost because God's love in Christ is unbreakable.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does grounding assurance in "God's love" rather than your love for God provide security?
2. What does "in Christ Jesus our Lord" mean—how does union with Christ guarantee inseparability from God's love?
3. How does Romans 8:39 summarize the entire chapter's teaching on the Spirit, suffering, and glory?

## Interlinear Text

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οὐτε	ὑψωμα	οὐτε	βάθος	οὐτε	τις	κτίσις	ἑτέρα	
Nor	height	Nor	depth	Nor	any	creature	other	
G3777	G5313	G3777	G899	G3777	G5100	G2937	G2087	
δυνήσεται	ἡμᾶς	χωρίσαι	ἀπὸ	τῆς	ἀγάπης	τοῦ	θεοῦ	τῆς
shall be able	us	to separate	from	G3588	the love	G3588	of God	G3588
G1410	G2248	G5563	G575		G26		G2316	
ἐν	Χριστῷ	Ἰησοῦ	τῷ	κυρίῳ	ἡμῶν			
which is in	Christ	Jesus	G3588	Lord	our			
G1722	G5547	G2424		G2962	G2257			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 8:35** (Love): Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**Romans 5:8** (Love): But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

**1 John 4:19** (Love): We love him, because he first loved us.

**John 3:16** (Love): 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.

**Ephesians 1:4** (Love): According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

**1 John 4:16** (Love): And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

**John 16:27** (Love): For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

**John 17:26** (Love): And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

**Isaiah 24:21** (References Lord): And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth.

**Psalms 64:6** (Parallel theme): They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep.