

The  
Sunday  
School  
Lesson

VICTORY THROUGH  
GOD'S UNFAILING  
LOVE  
LESSON TEXT:  
Romans 8:1-13

The Bible is the history of  
Israel—extended to the  
history of mankind.

Conquered, enslaved,  
knowing times of great hard-  
ship, the people of Israel were  
blessed with God's enduring  
care; harassed by enemies on  
all sides, and afflicted by  
natural disasters over a  
period of years, she was yet  
delivered out of slavery at  
God's hands. That she fell  
again on evil days was her  
own doing...yet she was  
forgiven again and again and  
given one chance after  
another.

So it is today.  
On a more personal basis,  
who can fail to be moved by  
Paul's own experiences...his  
personal testimony? He was  
living proof of what he sought  
to teach all men! Paul the  
sinner, the persecutor of his  
brethren, was redeemed in  
Christ; and there was no more  
impassioned arbitrator on  
behalf of Christianity than this  
erstwhile sinner! His  
humility, his foresight, his all-  
consuming faith has reached  
to mankind through the  
centuries, giving them the  
hope he experienced, the  
certainty his soul enjoyed of  
ultimate salvation yet to  
come!

Paul passionately believed  
in the God that justified, and  
in the Christ that died.

In studying our verses for  
today we are constrained to  
recognize the following  
threats to the security of  
mankind.

(1) Separation from the love  
of Christ. To be cut off from  
the love so freely exhibited by  
the Son of God would leave us  
destitute, indeed. For thereby  
we would forfeit all hope of  
salvation and life everlasting.

(2) A sense of abandonment  
by God in our moments of  
travail. How hopeless we  
would be—and how spiritless  
in our attitude—if we could not  
turn to God for strength in the  
hours that trouble our souls!

(3) Deep personal un-  
certainties as we face  
life...and death. How hopeless  
it would be if we had to depend  
entirely on our own resources  
to meet the bruising buffetings  
of life, the unknown shadows  
of the grave, unbolstered by  
the Christian's faith in a  
glorious life beyond the  
shadows! Believing in God,  
the Christian faces death  
confidently certain that it is  
Believing in God, the  
Christian faces death  
confidently certain that it is but  
a transition to better things—as  
the embryo in its mother's  
womb transfers itself from a  
sperm to a living being,  
complete with brain and soul,  
and enters into a separate life  
of its own in the world as we  
know it!

If the unthinking babe,  
prematurely born, can fight so  
tenaciously for life not  
knowing whether the world it  
enters is friendly or  
cruel...can we not—having  
had the opportunity to think  
and mature in spirit—face  
without fear the unknown that  
comes upon us at the end of  
our earthly existence?

God's concern for mankind  
is all around us—in the earth,  
and the seas and the skies. In  
them and in the creatures that  
inhabit them, man is provided  
with earthly sustenance. In  
the person of Christ, His only  
Son, man is assured of  
spiritual life!

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