

"The Christian and the Palm." Psalms 92:12
Sermon number four.

Romans 8:36-39;

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. (37) Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. (38) For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, (39) 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.

1-In these verses the apostle exhausts the category and declares his persuasion that not one of the things or persons embraced shall be able to separate the believer from the Divine love of God.

2-Let us glance at them in order:

1-Death shall be no separating power

1-The king of terrors will only usher the emancipated spirit into the near presence of his Lord.

2-Life shall prove no separating power:

1-Even when it is flowing full and free it will not be allowed to separate us from the love of Christ.

3-Angels, principalities, powers, shall prove no separating power.

1-This must refer to the evil angels, to Satan and his host; for the good angels are our helpers; Hebrews 1:14;

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation.

4-Things present-shall not be able to separate us from Christ's love.

1-they are subtle and powerful foes yet Christ can vanquish them.

5-Things to come:

No possible combination of circumstances can perplex him.

"The Palm Tree And The Christian." Ps.92:12.

Sermon Number Four.

~~1-The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree.~~

1-The palm tree flourishes where other trees would wither and die.

2-On the northern borders of the Great Desert, at the foot of the Atlas Mountains, the groves of date palms form the great features of that parched region, and few trees beside can maintain an existence.

1-The hot blasts from the south are scarcely supportable by the native himself, and yet here forest of date palms flourish.

2-The palm; does not rejoice overmuch in the winter's copious rains.

3-The palm; does not droop under the drought and the burning sun of summer.

4-The palm; Will grow and grow upwards, even if heavy weights are placed upon it.

2-The influences that try the righteous man, and threaten to crush him are powerless to do so.

1-The palm, truly, is a root out of a dry ground: the choking sand surrounds it, the burning heat scorches it, the fierce tempest beats upon it;

BUT IN SPITE OF THEM ALL IT BEARS IT BEAUTIFUL CORONA OF LEAVES FAR ON HIGH, AND FLOURISHES STILL.

2-So it is with the righteous:

1-Paul's challenge to earth and hell to harm him if they can:

Romans 8:35-39;

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword

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6-Height, depth, or any other creature, shall likewise be unable to separate us from the Lord's love.

7-Concerning the suffering of christians Paul said, 2-Cor. 4:8-9;

We are troubled on every side yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; (9)- Persecuted, but ~~not~~ forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.

8-In these verses three remarks are suggested:

1-That the trials encountered in the cause of Christ are sometimes very great:

1-It may be laid down as a principle, that the man who is earnestly engaged in any righteous cause in this world will have to encounter trials.

2-The old prophets had their trials:

Some insulted, incarcerated, killed.

2-That, however great the trials encountered, they are not beyond bearing.

1-The true laborer is supported:

1-By the approbation of his conscience

2-By the encouraging results of his labors.

3-By the sustaining strength of God.

3-That the right bearing of these trials subserves the good of souls.

3-In Moses' last counsel to the priests, Levites, and Joshua, he said, Deut.31:6;

"Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Hebrews 13:5;

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such ~~thin~~ things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.

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4-A, the elements do not destroy the Palm-
So the influences that try the righteous
one and threaten to crush him are
powerless to do so.

5-By the grace of God they even promote
his growth.

1-He grows rich by loss.

2-Strong by trial.

3-Patient by tribulation, and joyous by
suffering.

Romans 5:3-4;

And not only so, but we glory
in tribulation also: knowing that trib-
ulation worketh patience; (4)-And patience
experience; and experience, hope.