# Conquering Sheep
## *Romans 8:37 - 38*

*37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**We all have fears and worries. Often, our fears can seem to overtake us. And we can often magnify our fears out of proportion to what they really are. Occasionally we question the presence and role of God in the fears that we experience. In today's Bible lesson, Paul gave two forms of assurance. We're not alone in times of fear and worry. We are also not separated from God. We enjoy His companionship and presence in fearful times. The Bible says, in verse 37, "in all these things." God comprehensively promises to remain with His people.**

**Bible scholars point out that the expression "more than conquerors" in verse 37 actually comes from but a single word in the Greek language. The word is *hypernikomen*. The literal rendering of that word into English would be "one who exceedingly overcomes," "over and above victory" and "intensely successful or victorious." The Bible's point is that believers are bigger than their fears thanks to the Lord's presence and power in them. Remember the words of I John 4:4, *"the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."* The English tries to capture the essence of this Greek expression and theological principle by declaring that we are "more than" conquerors - implying that we are stronger than any fears we encounter.**

**In verses 38-39, Paul gives a rather lengthy list of things that do not separate us from the Lord or divide us from His grasp upon us. That list is meant to be illustrative, but not exhaustive. There are many things we could add to that list. Indeed, a key phrase is found in verse 39..."or anything else in all creation." That expression encompasses everything else and anything fear we could experience or imagine.**

**In verse 38, Paul used the expression "for I am convinced." He was confident about what He wrote and concluded. His confidence was in the Lord. David Jeremiah made a keen observation about Paul's use of the expression "for I am convinced." Jeremiah wrote, *"this phrase is in the perfect tense in the Greek language and could be translated "I have***

***become and I remain convinced.' There is a big difference between knowing a truth and being persuaded of it. Paul's persuasion is not only the result of his knowledge of God's truth, but it is also the product of his own experience."*** **Think of this subtlety in this way. You may know how to build a chair from reading a book. But you may be confident about your ability to build a chair because you have actually done it. Paul had experienced God's grace and power amid his own fears. So he was convinced in both his head and his heart.**

**In the examples of fears that Paul gave in verses 38-39, it is interesting to note that Paul spoke to things in this world and beyond it. He addressed things with material and physical dimensions. But the Christian remains victorious in any situation. David Jeremiah identified four reasons why Christians are more than conquerors through Christ. Those reasons are...**

**1. Our enemies are not human but spiritual...alone we can never stand against Satan and his evil. Our victories are special because the Lord enables us to be triumphant.**
**2. Our struggle is not momentary but constant...evil never takes a rest. Spiritual warfare is an enduring struggle for us.**
**3. Our victories are not earthly but eternal...battles that involve the Lord working through us have value beyond today.**
**4. Our rewards are not perishable but permanent...God promises an im- perishable crown to those who enjoy victory through Him. You can read about this crown in I Corinthians 9:24-25.**

**Applications . . .**

**1. Recall a time when Christ gave you power and strength amid a fear.**
**2. Pray for someone you know today who may be experiencing a trying time with fears, worries and battles.**
**3. Memorize verse 37. Practice writing and saying this verse until you have it mastered.**
**4. Be sure to bring any current worries or fears you may have to the Lord. Consider that surrender in light of 2 Corinthians 10:4-6.**