

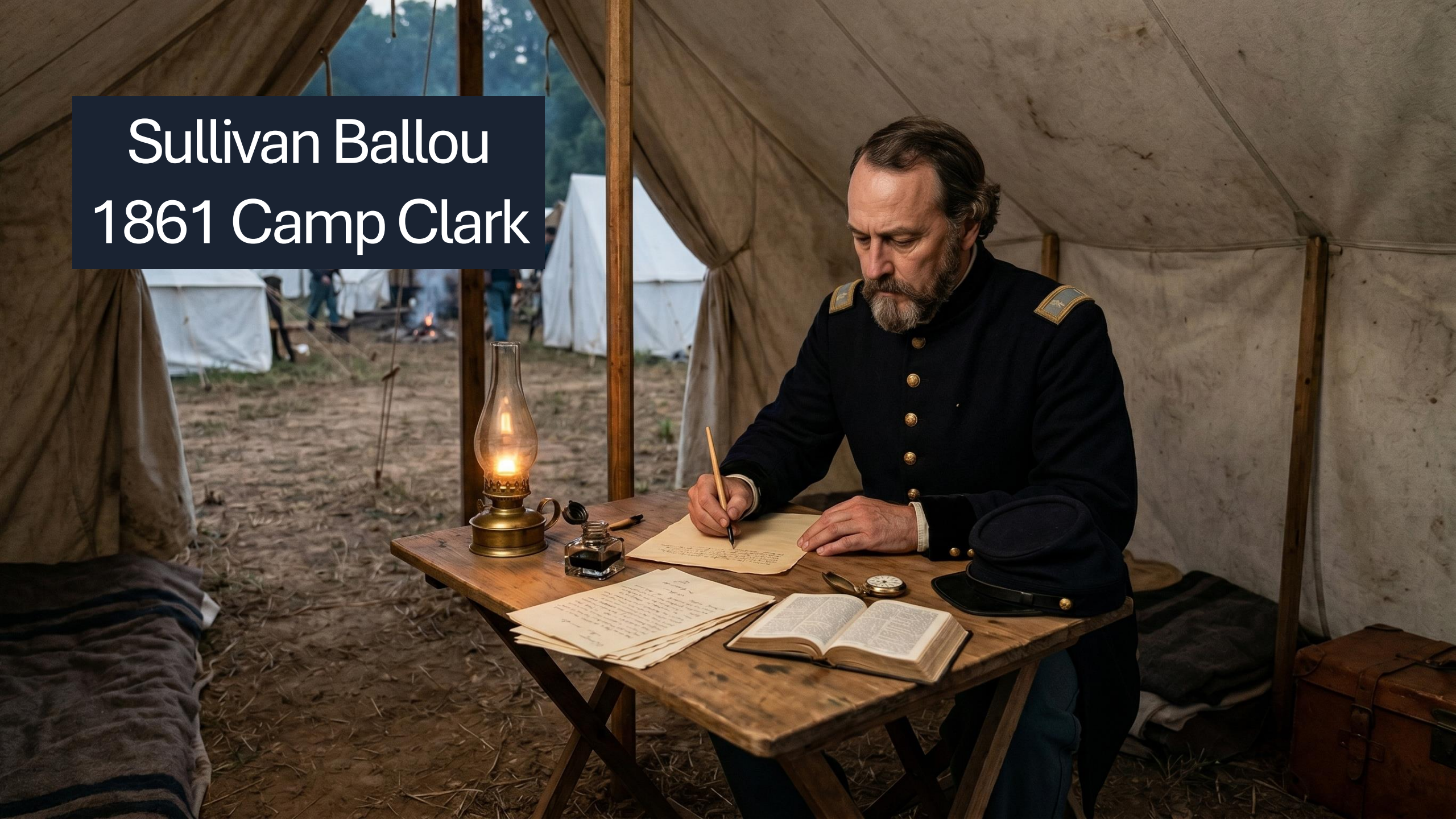
Familiar Ground,  
New Light

**COMING  
SOON**

# Romans



# Sullivan Ballou 1861 Camp Clark





Comp near Lanier Ark May 10<sup>th</sup> 1868  
My dear Sarah  
It has been a long time since  
I had an opportunity of writing to you, and I  
gladly avail myself of this present opportunity.  
I am not certain that I will have a chance  
of sending this but I will write a few lines  
any how and try and get it off to let you  
know that I am among the living.  
We have been on a hard march since we  
did not know to give you the particulars of our  
I will write you a few days if I can get a  
chance to send it and write you a long one  
I just came off of picket and found today  
all writing to be sent by a man that has been  
discharged who is going to send down this  
morning. I was quite well since our  
day. Still in the best of health. I  
The soldiers are going away from us in the  
and killed a good many. We went up as high  
as Graham's on 11 miles over Cape Scurry.  
We fought down nearly all day at the Cape on  
Sunday but with no success. The rebels thought  
that we would never get back to state but they are  
badly defeated. We are all well again and have  
sustained but very slight loss, we were lost  
a man out of our company and a very one  
lost out of the rest. I wish I had time to give you a  
full description of our trip, it would be very  
interesting to you I think, but you will have  
to put up with this little scrap for the present.  
I am in hope that I will get a whole  
package of letters from you in a few days.

break...

If I do not return, my dear Sarah, never forget how much I love you, nor that, when my last breath escapes me on the battlefield, it will whisper your name...

O Sarah! If the dead can come back to this earth and flit unseen around those they loved, I shall always be near you; in the gladdest days and in the darkest nights... always, always; and if there be a soft breeze upon your cheek, it shall be my breath, as the cool air fans your

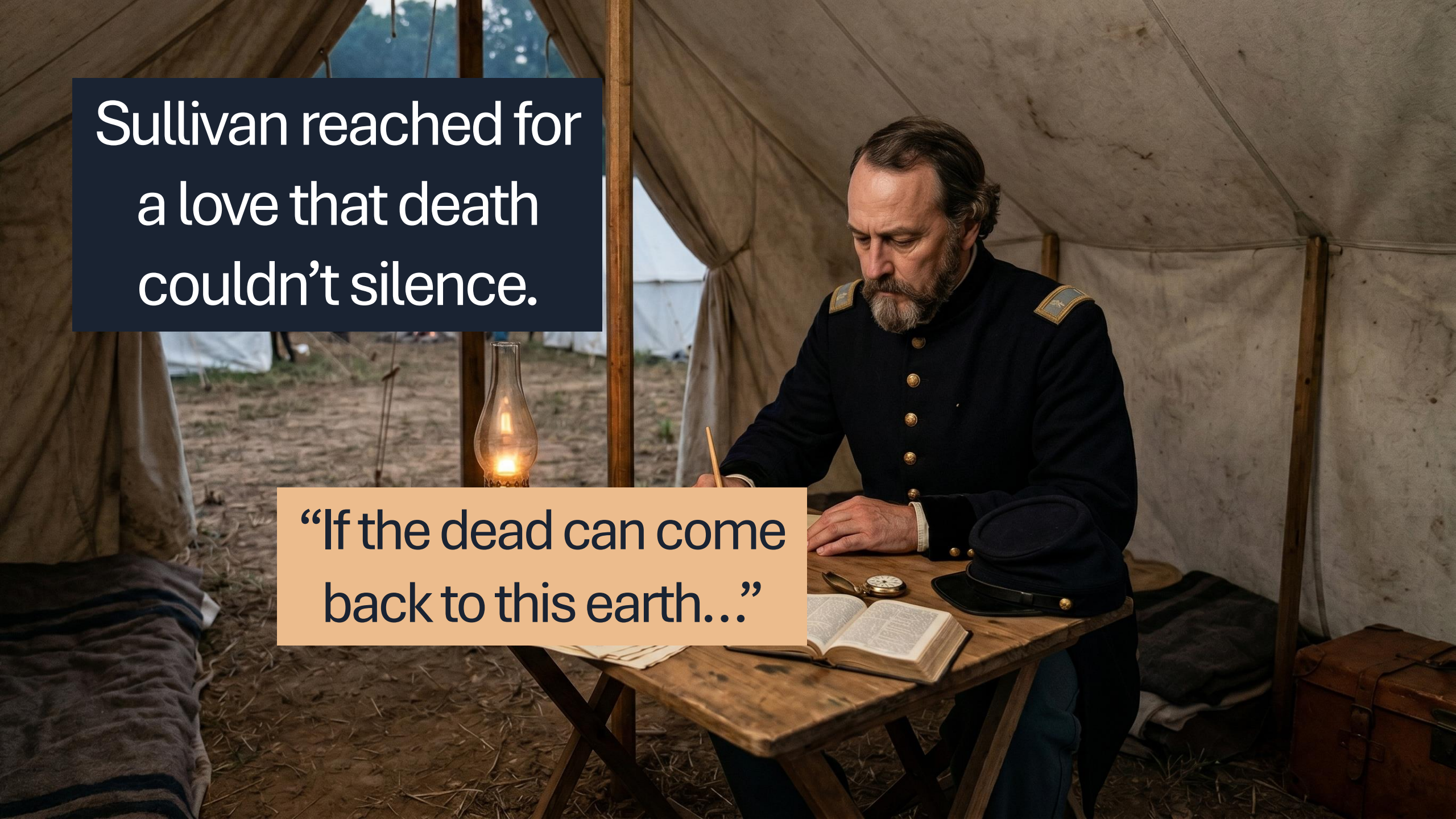
Camp near Larje, Ark. May 10<sup>th</sup> 1868  
My dear Amanda  
It has been a long time since  
I had an opportunity of writing to you, and I  
gladly avail myself of this present opportunity.  
I am not certain that I will have a chance  
of sending this but I will write a few lines  
any how and try and get it off to let you  
know that I am among the living.  
We have been on a hard march since we  
not been to give you the particulars of our trip  
I will write you a few days if I can get a  
chance to send it and write you a long one  
I just came off of packet and found today  
all writing to be sent by a man that has been  
discharged who is going to send down this  
morning. I was quite well since our  
day. While in the boat have intensely  
The cabin a good many passengers who in the  
and felt a good many. We went up as high  
at 6 o'clock to on 11 miles above Cape Scurry  
We fought down nearly all day at the Cape on  
Sunday hot with a day. The girls thought  
that we would never get back to state but they  
badly are taken for us all back again and has  
sustained but very slight loss, we were lost  
a man out of our company and only one  
lost out of the rest. I wish I had time to give you a  
full description of our trip, it would be very  
interesting to you I think, but you will have  
to put up with this little scrap for the present  
I am in hope that I will get a whole  
package of letters from you in a few days

a soft breeze upon your cheek, it shall  
be my breath, as the cool air fans your  
throbbing temple, it shall be my spirit  
passing by.

Sarah, do not mourn me dead; think I  
am gone, and wait for thee, for we shall  
meet again.

Sullivan reached for  
a love that death  
couldn't silence.

“If the dead can come  
back to this earth...”



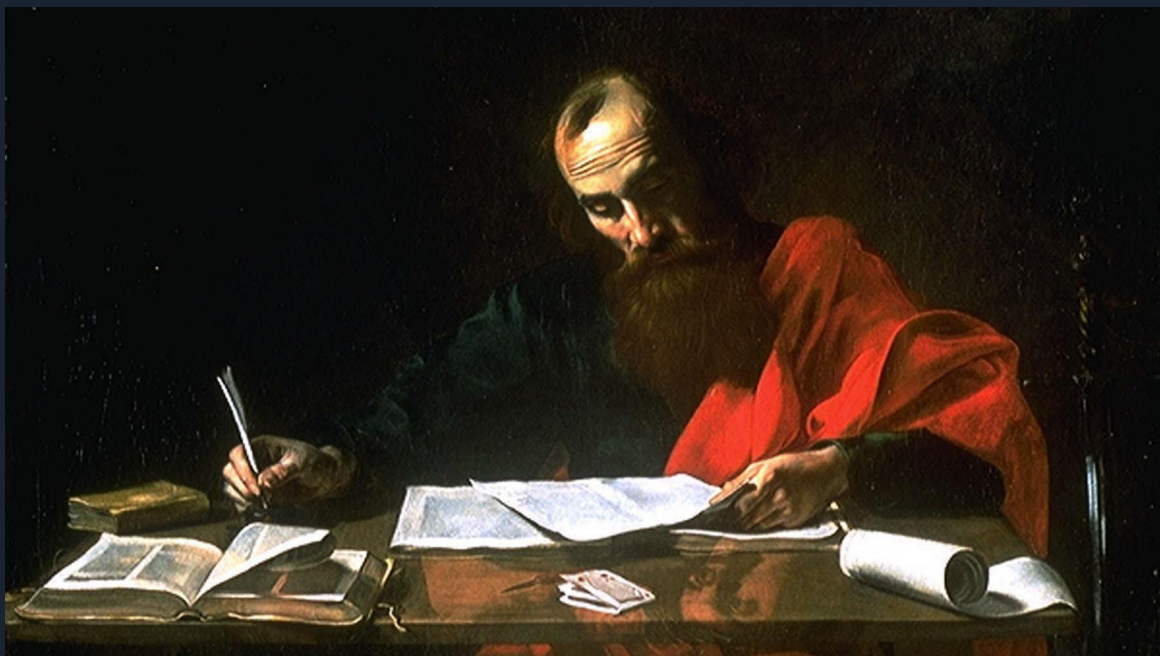
Paul doesn't *gesture*...  
He *announces*!

A painting of Paul writing a letter at a desk. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark blue tunic and a red shawl. He has a long, dark beard and is looking down at an open book on the desk. He is holding a quill pen in his right hand. On the desk, there is a scroll of paper, a small stack of cards or papers, and a book. The background is dark and textured.

There is a love from God that  
*cannot* be broken by death!



Sullivan hoped...  
Sullivan reached for..



Paul promised...  
Paul laid in our hands...



The love of God for  
you in Christ Jesus is a  
love that does what  
even the greatest  
human love can only  
hope to do.

# ROMANS

A SYMPHONY

Hear Paul's last question

Close a bookend of Paul's majestic section

Stand inside a great cosmic catalogue

Watch Paul turn a lament Psalm inside out

Send into summer with something to hold onto!

Violoncello  
Contrabasso  
Flauto I-II

*f*  
*f*  
*f*

*Allegro con brio*

Timpani  
Percussione

*f*  
*f*  
*f*

*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*

*p*  
*mf*



Rom. 8:35

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

Rom. 8:35

τίς ἡμᾶς χωρίσει ἀπὸ τῆς  
ἀγάπης τοῦ Χριστοῦ;  
θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ  
διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

Rom. 8:36

As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

Rom. 8:36

καθὼς γέγραπται ὅτι  
ἐνεκεν σοῦ  
θανατούμεθα ὅλην  
τὴν ἡμέραν,  
ἐλογίσθημεν ὡς  
πρόβατα σφαγῆς.

Rom. 8:37

No, in all these things  
we are more than  
conquerors through  
him who loved us.

Rom. 8:37

ἀλλ' ἐν τούτοις πᾶσιν  
ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ  
ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς.

Rom. 8:38

For I am sure that  
neither death nor life,  
nor angels nor rulers,  
nor things present nor  
things to come, nor  
powers,

Rom. 8:38

πέπεισμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε  
θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε  
ἄγγελοι οὔτε ἀρχαὶ οὔτε  
ἐνεστῶτα οὔτε μέλλοντα  
οὔτε δυνάμεις

Rom. 8:39

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.

Rom. 8:39

οὔτε ὕψωμα οὔτε βάθος  
οὔτε τις κτίσις ἕτέρα  
δυνήσεται ἡμᾶς χωρίσαι  
ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ θεοῦ  
τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ  
κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.



# Paul bookends a symphonic theme of God's love



God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit

Rm. 5:5

Nothing..will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rm. 8:39



The last question:  
Who shall separate us?



Paul cites a lament:  
And turns it inside out!



The cosmic catalogue:  
Nothing in all creation!



The last question:  
Who shall separate us?

Rom. 8:33

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Rom. 8:33

τίς ἐγκαλέσει κατὰ ἐκλεκτῶν θεοῦ; θεὸς ὁ δικαίων.

Rom. 8:34

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.

Rom. 8:34

τίς ὁ κατακρινῶν;

Χριστὸς Ἰησοῦς ὁ ἀποθανών, μᾶλλον δὲ ἐγερθεὶς, ὃς καὶ ἐστὶν ἐν δεξιᾷ τοῦ θεοῦ, ὃς καὶ ἐντυγχάνει ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν.

Rom. 8:35

Who shall separate us  
from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation, or  
distress, or  
persecution, or famine,  
or nakedness, or  
danger, or sword?

Mt 19:6

Rom. 8:35

τίς ἡμᾶς χωρίσει ἀπὸ τῆς  
ἀγάπης τοῦ Χριστοῦ;  
θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ

χωρίζω

“to separate, put a  
space between”

χωρίζω

“to separate, put a  
space between”



Rom. 8:35

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θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ

τοῦ Χριστοῦ  
love of Christ

ος ἢ

τοῦ Χριστοῦ  
love of Christ

Our love of Christ?  
("Objective" genitive)

Christ's love for us?  
("Subjective" genitive)

The love  
of the  
father...



My love of Dad?

Dad's love for me?

τοῦ Χριστοῦ  
love of Christ

Our love of Christ?  
("Objective" genitive)

Christ's love for us?  
("Subjective" genitive)

The love  
of money  
is the root  
of all evil  
(1 Tim. 6:10)



My love of money?

Money's love for me?

Rom. 8:35

Who shall separate us  
from the love of Christ?

Christ's love for us

persecution, or famine,  
or nakedness, or  
danger, or sword?

Rom. 8:35

τίς ἡμᾶς χωρίσει ἀπὸ τῆς  
ἀγάπης τοῦ Χριστοῦ;

θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ  
ἐπικίνδυνος ἢ μάχαιρα

ἀγάπη (agape) - a  
love of commitment

What are the  
possible wedges?



Rom. 8:35

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θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ  
διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the possible wedges?



“tribulation”

θλιψις (thlipsis)

NO!



Rom. 8:35

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danger, or sword?

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διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the possible wedges?

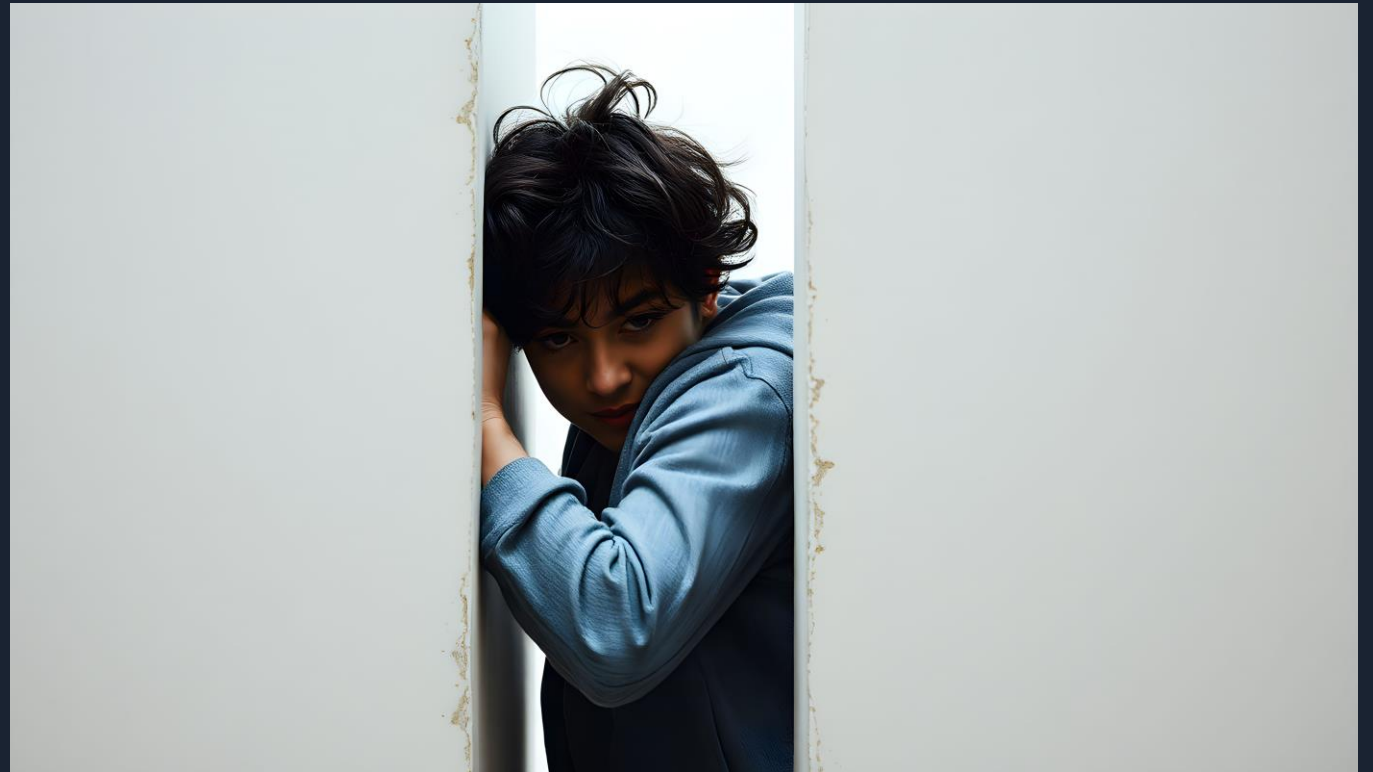


“distress”

“narrow space”

στενοχωρία  
(stenochōria)

NO!



Rom. 8:35

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διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the possible wedges?

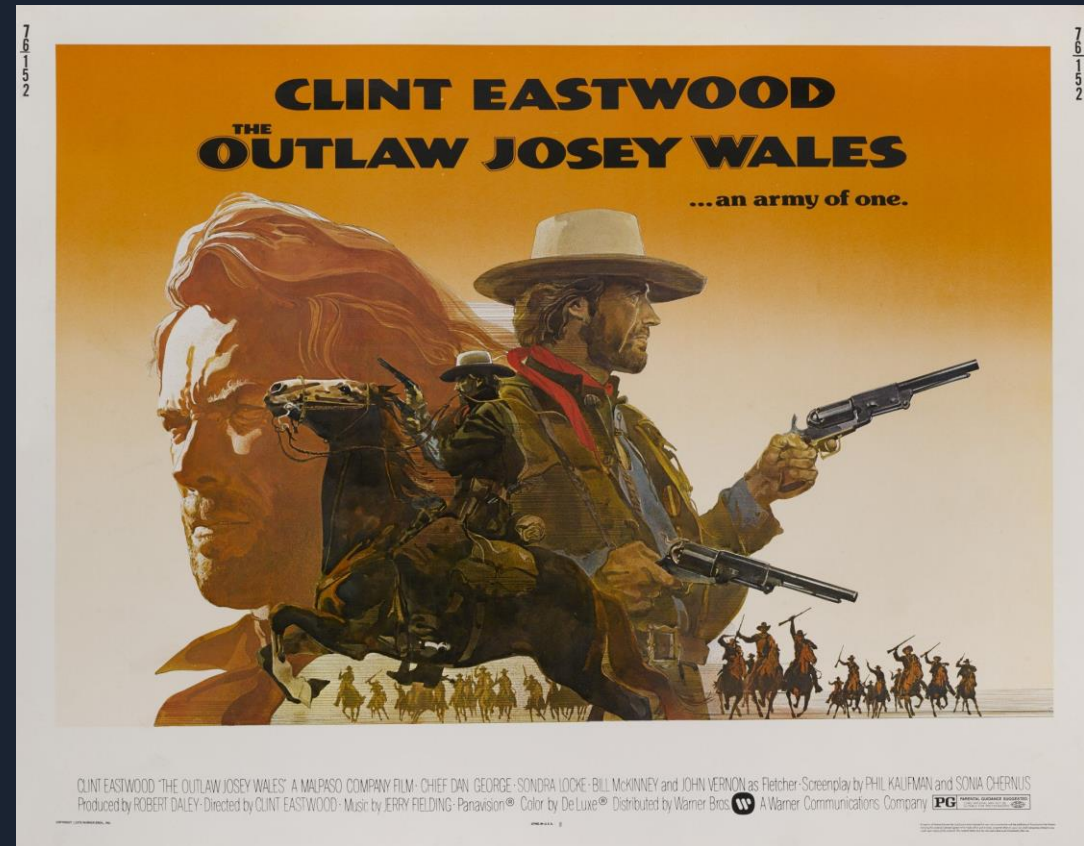


“persecution”

“being hunted”

διωγμός  
(diōgmos)

NO!



Rom. 8:35

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distress, or  
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θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ  
διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the possible wedges?



“famine”

“hunger”

λιμός  
(limos)

NO!



Rom. 8:35

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θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ  
διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the  
possible wedges?



“nakedness”

total destitution

γυμνότης  
(gymnotēs)

NO!



Rom. 8:35

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διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the possible wedges?



“danger”

“peril”

κίνδυνος  
(kindynos)

NO!



Rom. 8:35

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from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation, or  
distress, or  
persecution, or famine,  
or nakedness, or  
danger, or sword?

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θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ  
διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ  
γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ  
μάχαιρα;

What are the possible wedges?



“sword”

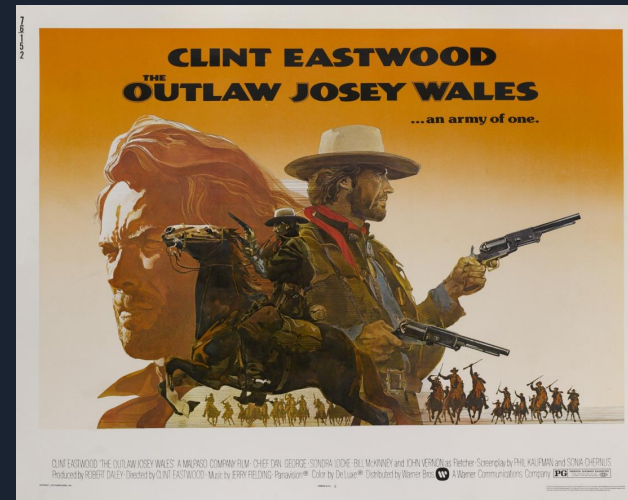
Instr. of execution

μάχαιρα  
(machaira)

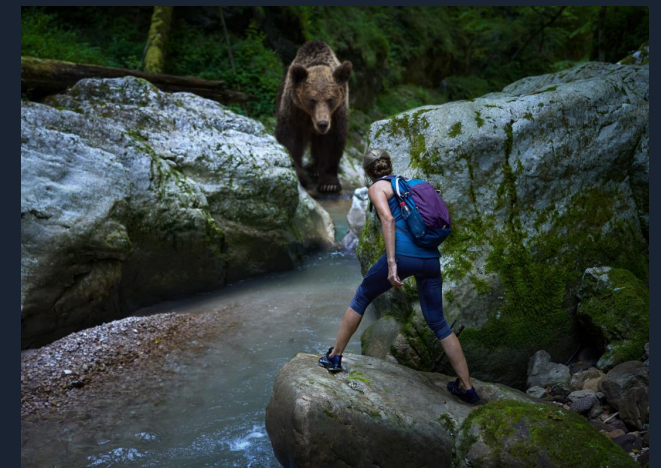
NO!



What are the possible wedges?



These are real!





The last question:  
Who shall separate us?



Paul cites a lament:  
And turns it inside out!

Rom. 8:36

As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

Psalm 44:22 (43:23)

Rom. 8:36

καθὼς γέγραπται ὅτι  
ἐνεκεν σοῦ  
θανατούμεθα ὅλην  
τὴν ἡμέραν,  
ἐλογίσθημεν ὡς  
πρόβατα σφαγῆς.

Be stunned!!!





A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:1

O God, we have heard  
with our ears, our  
fathers have told us,  
what deeds you  
performed in their days,  
in the days of old:



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:9-10

But you have rejected us and disgraced us and have not gone out with our armies. You have made us turn back from the foe, and those who hate us have gotten spoil.



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:11-12

You have made us like  
sheep for slaughter  
and have scattered us  
among the nations. You  
have sold your people  
for a trifle, demanding  
no high price for them.



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:13-14

You have made us the  
taunt of our neighbors,  
the derision and scorn  
of those around us. You  
have made us a byword  
among the nations, a  
laughingstock among  
the peoples.



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:15-16

All day long my disgrace  
is before me, and  
shame has covered my  
face at the sound of the  
taunter and reviler, at  
the sight of the enemy  
and the avenger.



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:17-18

All this has come upon us, though we have not forgotten you, and we have not been false to your covenant. Our heart has not turned back, nor have our steps departed from your way;



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:19-20

yet you have broken us  
in the place of jackals  
and covered us with the  
shadow of death. If we  
had forgotten the name  
of our God or spread  
out our hands to a  
foreign god,



A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:21-22

would not God discover  
this? For he knows the  
secrets of the heart. Yet  
for your sake we are  
killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as  
sheep to be  
slaughtered.




A psalm of national  
lamentation

Ps. 44:23-24

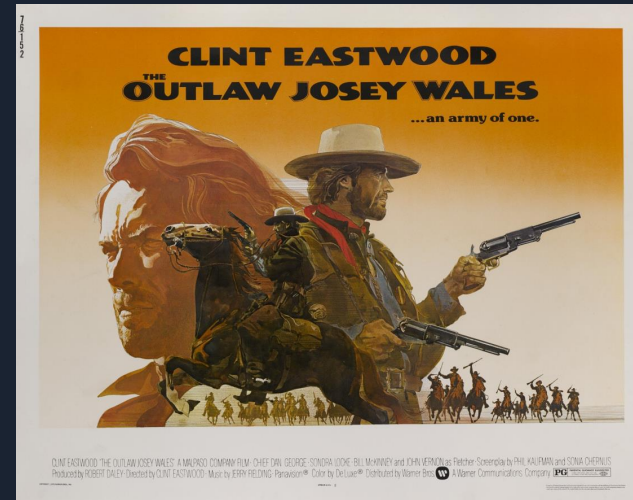
Awake! Why are you  
sleeping, O Lord?

Rouse yourself! Do not  
reject us forever! Why  
do you hide your face?  
Why do you forget our  
affliction and  
oppression?

The image features a central dark grey rectangular box containing white text. Surrounding this box are six stylized, orange-colored hands, each pointing its index finger towards the center. The hands are arranged in two columns of three, with the top hand in each column pointing downwards and the bottom hand pointing upwards. The background is a solid, muted blue-grey color.

This is a Psalm  
of accusation!

What are the possible wedges?



Paul doesn't  
sugarcoat it



Rom. 8:37

No, in all these things  
we are more than  
conquerors through  
him who loved us.

“over, above, beyond,  
exceedingly”

ὑπερνικῶμεν  
(hypernikōmen)

Rom. 8:37

ἀλλ’ ἐν τούτοις πᾶσιν  
ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ  
ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς.

“to conquer, overcome,  
be victorious”

Language can't  
hold the image!



Rom. 8:37

No, in all these things  
we are more than  
conquerors through  
him who loved us.

Rom. 8:37

ἀλλ' ἐν τούτοις πᾶσιν  
ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ  
ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς.

Rom. 8:37

No, in all these things  
we are more than  
conquerors through  
him who loved us.

The cross gave us  
a hyper-victory!

Rom. 8:37

ἀλλ' ἐν τούτοις πᾶσιν  
ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ  
ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς.

ἀγαπήσαντος  
(agapēsantos)

An “aorist” participle pointing  
to a completed past act of love



The prosperity  
gospel promises the  
faithful a great and  
prosperous life.

Paul says the love of  
Christ will carry us  
through and beyond  
real storms in this life





The last question:  
Who shall separate us?



Paul cites a lament:  
And turns it inside out!



The cosmic catalogue:  
Nothing in all creation!

Rom. 8:38

For I am sure that  
neither death nor life,  
nor angels nor rulers,  
nor things present nor  
things to come nor

I have come to be  
persuaded and can't  
be un-persuaded!

Rom. 8:38

πέπεισμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε  
θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε  
ἄγγελοι οὔτε ἀρχαὶ οὔτε  
μέλλοντα

πέπεισμαι  
(pepeismai)

“perfect” aspect pointing to a  
past action w/ continuing  
present results

# MERISM

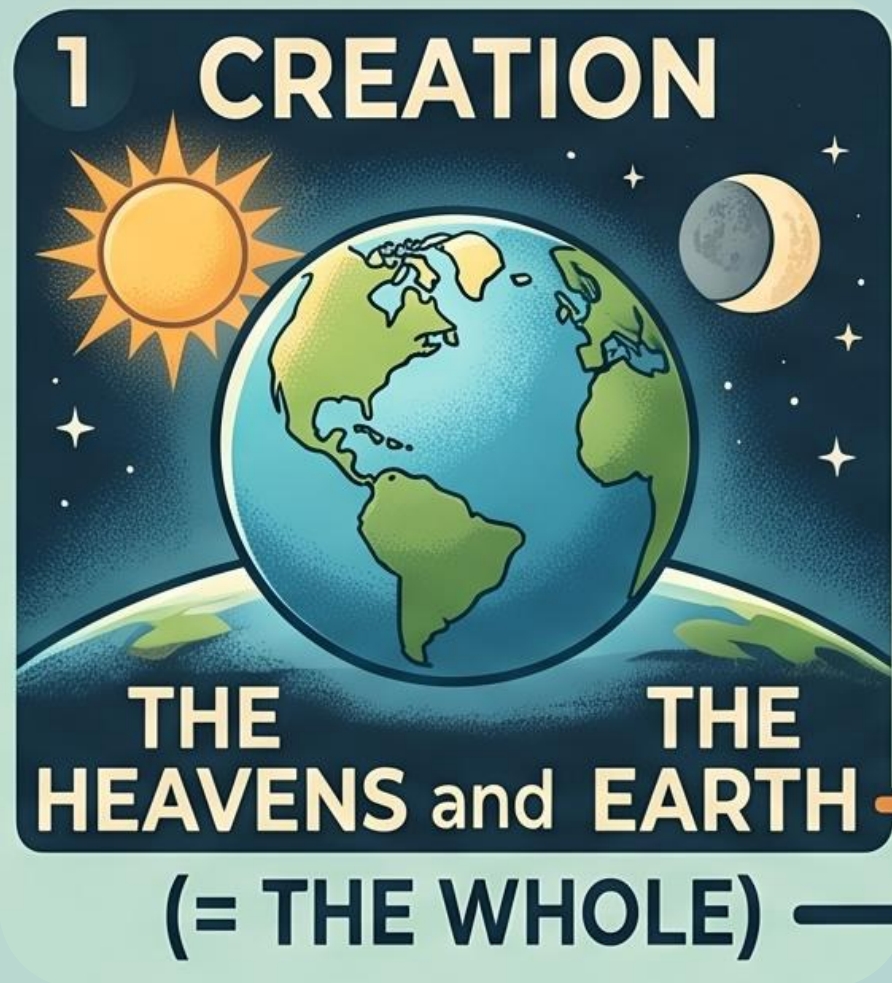
## **MERISM:**

A figure of speech where a whole is referenced by listing its key, typically contrasting, parts or components.

# MERISM

## MERISM:

It emphasizes the entire subject by specifying its parts or extremes.



# MERISM

## MERISM:

It emphasizes the entire subject by specifying its parts or extremes.



→ **YOUNG and OLD** ←  
→ **(= THE WHOLE)** ←

# MERISM

## MERISM:

It emphasizes the entire subject by specifying its parts or extremes.

### 3 HUMANITY



→ **FLESH and BONE**  
→ **(= THE WHOLE)**

# MERISM

## MERISM:

It emphasizes the entire subject by specifying its parts or extremes.



# MERISM

## MERISM:

It emphasizes the entire subject by specifying its parts or extremes.



Rom. 8:38

**For I am sure** that  
neither death nor life,  
nor angels nor rulers,  
nor things present nor  
things to come, nor  
powers,

Rom. 8:38

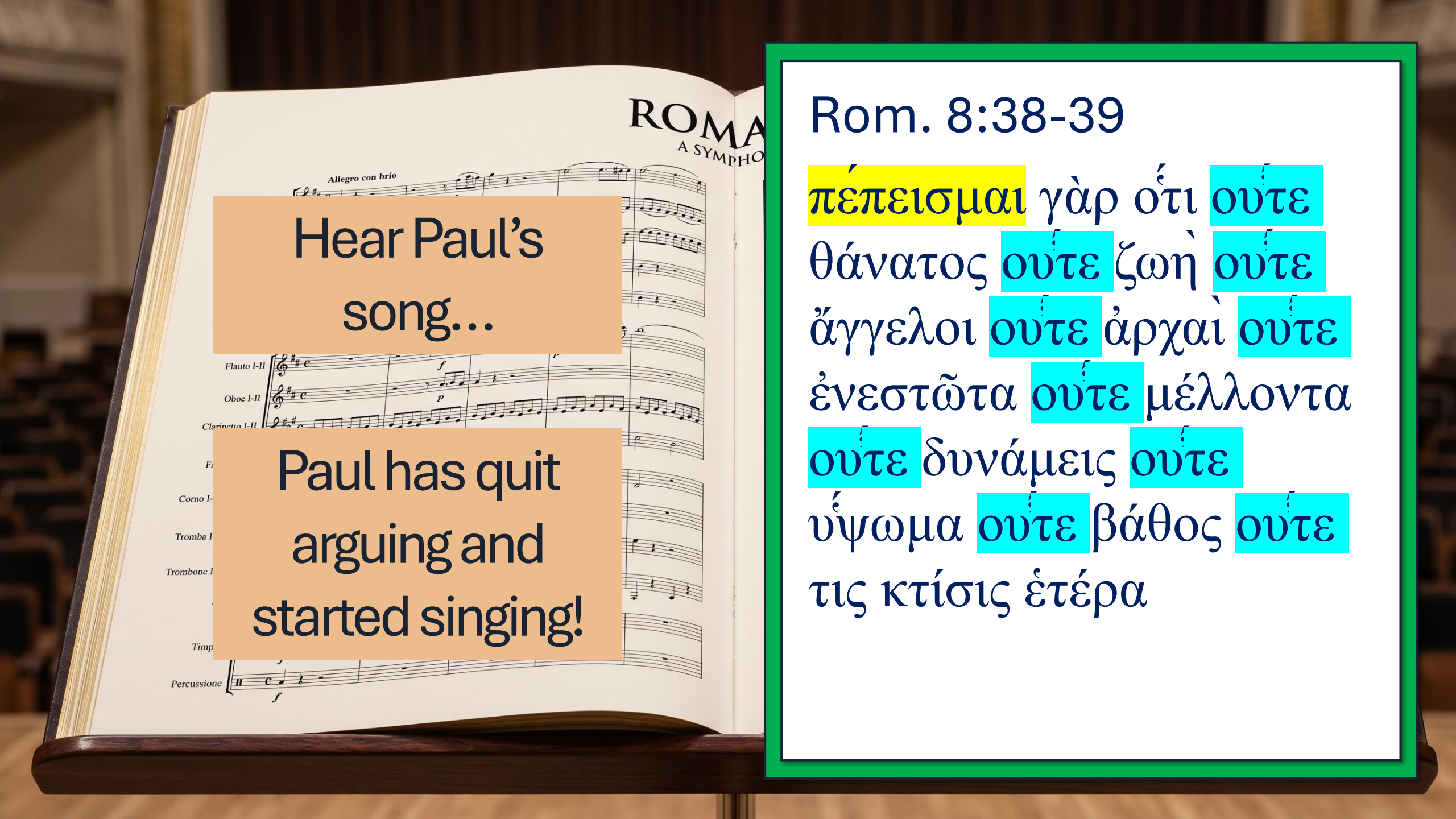
**πέπεισμαι** γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε  
θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε  
ἄγγελοι οὔτε ἀρχαὶ οὔτε  
ἐνεστῶτα οὔτε μέλλοντα  
οὔτε δυνάμεις

Rom. 8:39

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.

Rom. 8:39

οὔτε ὕψωμα οὔτε βάθος  
οὔτε τις κτίσις ἕτέρα  
δυνήσεται ἡμᾶς χωρίσαι  
ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ θεοῦ  
τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ  
κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.



Hear Paul's  
song...

Paul has quit  
arguing and  
started singing!

Rom. 8:38-39

πέπνισμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε  
θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε  
ἄγγελοι οὔτε ἀρχαὶ οὔτε  
ἐνεστῶτα οὔτε μέλλοντα  
οὔτε δυνάμεις οὔτε  
ὑψώματα οὔτε βάθος οὔτε  
τις κτίσις ἕτέρα

Rom. 8:39

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οὔτε ὑψωμα οὔτε βάθος  
οὔτε τις κτίσις ἕτέρα  
δυνήσεται ἡμᾶς χωρίσαι  
ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ θεοῦ  
τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ  
κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.



# Paul bookends a symphonic theme of God's love



God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit

Rm. 5:5

Nothing...will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rm. 8:39



The last question:  
Who shall separate us?



Paul cites a lament:  
And turns it inside out!



The cosmic catalogue:  
Nothing in all creation!



Points for  
Home

You are held by Christ's love!

Nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."  
(Rom. 8:39)

**The bond can't be broken!**



Points for  
Home

The storms are real!

“As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all the day long...’ (Rom. 8:36)

We aren't exempt



Points for  
Home

But we are hyper-victors!

“We are more than  
conquerors...”  
(Rom. 8:37)

Let's face the summer!

A photograph of three people sitting at a table outdoors, eating lunch. On the left, a man in a white shirt is looking down at his food. In the center, a woman in a white shirt is smiling and eating. On the right, a man in a light blue shirt is looking towards the woman. The table has white takeout containers with salad, a glass of water, and a plate of orange slices. The background is a wooden slat wall.

Lunch topic:

What is the one thing in your own life that you have most struggled to believe cannot separate you from God's love?

# Romans

