

God Is for You
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In the Odyssey, like most Hellenic literature, the gods play a significant role. In fact, they usually have their own drama that affects human lives. Their favor or disfavor toward people and situations often changes their fates. Yet the gods seem just as fickle in their loyalty as people.

While the Western world currently lives in the Enlightenment fad of disregarding gods from the cause and effect of daily life, we still secretly wonder who is pulling the strings on our odyssey of life. Like the great home run hitters, we have our superstitions and little rituals we believe give us good luck. Sometimes we have good reason to wonder, after calamity after calamity befall us: are the gods for us?

St. Paul assures us, "If God is for us, who can be against?" (Romans 8:31b) God is for you. Not because you are brave, righteous, courageous, etc. In fact, Paul makes the point earlier in Romans that you were none of these things, but the opposite, even an enemy of God. But God loves sinners, as Jesus declared, "I didn't come to save the righteous, but unrighteous."

God is for you! And what sign has He given? The Cross. He gave up everything for you. He forgives you of all your sins and has united your destiny to His in baptism.

So Paul can go on to promise you that nothing can separate you from the love of God, not sin, not death. (Romans 8:38) Therefore, even when things seem to fall apart, even when we meet calamity and suffering, we know that we will eventually make it home. We will rise again.

Christ is the hero of our story, of our Odyssey. Jesus has stolen our role in the incarnation, defeated our enemies, and turned what would have been a tragedy into an epic poem with a fairy-tale ending.

God is for you. Say it every morning as you begin your odyssey.