

THE HOPE OF FUTURE GLORY

Romans 8:18-39

Key Verse: 8:23

“Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.”

1. How did Paul view present sufferings and future glory (18)? What does the creation expect (19)? Why does creation suffer (20; Gen 3:17-18)? For what does it groan in hope (21-22)?
2. Read verse 23. How does Paul describe believers? For what do we groan inwardly (Php 3:20-21)? What is our true hope and how does it enable us to wait patiently (24-25)?
3. What are our weaknesses, and how do they affect our prayer (26a; 7:18-20)? Who helps us and how (26b-27)? Why is the Spirit’s intercessory prayer effective?
4. What conviction do believers have, and on what basis (28)? What is the good which God works for (29-30)? How does Paul describe the process of God’s work in a believer’s life?
5. What does Paul emphasize in his rhetorical questions in verses 31-35? What problems do we confront and how can we overcome them?
6. How should believers regard sufferings (36)? What does it mean to be “more than conquerors” (37)? Who tries to separate us from God’s love, and why can they not (38-39)?