

Our Future Hope – Romans 8:18–39



MEMORY VERSE: And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.
Romans 8:28

DAY 1 ROMANS 8:18-22 — Suffering and Glory

1. How does the last sentence in v.17 lead to the great promise in v.18?
2. How did Paul's own life lend credibility to the truth of verse 18?
2 Corinthians 11:23-28
3. In using personification, what human attributes did Paul use to describe the plight of creation?
4. What insight do these verses give you about creation?
Genesis 3:17-19

2 Peter 3:13

5. How do these truths make you feel- excited, frightened, hopeful? Why?

DAY 2 ROMANS 8:23-25 — Personal Suffering

6. Why do followers of Christ both “groan inwardly” and “wait eagerly?”

2 Corinthians 5:1-5

LEARN THE TRUTH

We learned last week that the Holy Spirit dwells in believers and His mighty power works in us. This week we will see that the Spirit also gives hope for the future as we suffer and groan during these troubling times. We eagerly wait in hope because God promises the future will be magnificent.

7. What is meant by “firstfruits?” 1 Corinthians 15:20-23

8. What is true about “hope,” especially the hope of those who are in Christ?

9. Why do you think patience so important as we wait in hope?

10. What practices or truths help you as you wait patiently in hope?

DAY 3 ROMANS 8:26-30 — Intercessory Prayer

11. What weakness do we all have and what solution does the Holy Spirit provide? v.26

12. Why is the Holy Spirit better able to intercede for us than we are for ourselves?

13. What magnificent truth is in Romans 8:28? Why is this verse so important, especially in this context?

14. What does the Bible say about people who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? vv.29-30

15. What is God’s desire for all people, and how should this affect your prayer life? 1 Timothy 2:1-6

DAY 4 ROMANS 8:31-34 — God Is For Us

16. Of what truths can we be certain because of the fact that God is for us? vv. 31-34

17. What is “against us” according to the following three passages?
Psalm 37:12-13

Isaiah 59:12,13

1 Peter 5:8

18. Which opposition is giving you the most trouble lately- wicked people, your own sin, or the devil?
19. Which force are you more aware of in your life lately, the evil which is against you, or the power of God who is for you?
20. How does knowing that it is God who justifies and Christ who died yet also intercedes for us affect your thinking?

DAY 5 ROMANS 8:35-39 – More Than Conquerors

21. What are all the things that threaten but cannot separate us from the love of Christ? vv. 35, 38-39
22. How would you explain the the paradox in verses 36 and 37?
23. Life is constantly changing, rules seem to change every day, persecution is increasing. Why can we be certain that we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us?
Malachi 3:6

Hebrews 13:8
24. What threatens to separate you personally from God's love?
25. How have you seen the truth of Romans 8:28 and Romans 8:37 in your life? What might help you realize these truths more deeply?

LOVE THE TRUTH

God is indeed for us, so NOTHING can succeed against us. God can take the very worst evil, sadness or disaster and use it to accomplish His purpose in our lives. No matter what happens down here on earth, we will spend eternity with the Lord in glory, so we are indeed conquerors.

Romans 8:18-39

Our Future Hope

Are you suffering? Is your body breaking down due to age or sickness? Do the current natural disasters scare you? Are you discouraged by the evil behavior and twisted thinking of this world? Are you tired of constant difficulty? Here on earth, we groan as we are in bondage to decay, as is all creation. But this is only temporary! No matter how bad things get, none of it compares to what we will one day see and experience if we belong to God. He never changes and His glory is incomprehensible. In the midst of our groaning, we must wait eagerly for the redemption of our bodies. "May integrity and uprightness preserve me for I wait for You." Psalm 25:21

Not only must we wait in hope for the glory that will be revealed to us, but we must trust Him every day with the struggles we endure. We must be people of prayer. It is good to lift up our needs to the Lord, but it is also easy to presume we know what is best when we often don't. Sometimes we don't even realize we need prayer. God knows all and sees all. His ways are higher than ours and so the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. When we cry out for help in prayer, we must honor God and submit to His perfect will. He promises that He will cause all things to work together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning." Psalm 130:5

God knew from the beginning who would fear Him and follow Him. Because He forenew His children, He predestined them to be conformed to the image of His Son. He has called, justified and glorified them. This mighty encouraging during the difficult times of waiting in hope. We know that God wants everyone to be saved (2 Peter 3:9), yet many reject Him and instead choose their own destiny which results in separation

from God, eternal judgement and death. But we who are in Christ say, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23:6

Christians everywhere face persecution, some much worse than others. Many are already being killed and regarded as sheep to be slaughtered and this his will only get worse as the end draws near. "I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and will execute justice for the needy. Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall dwell in your presence." Psalm 140:12-13

WALK IN TRUTH



God has given five mighty promises to those who love and are called by Him. 1- He will cause all things to work together for good for His purposes. 2- His Spirit intercedes for us in prayer according to His will. 3- God is FOR US and is stronger than anything against us. 4- We are more than conquerors in everything through Him. 5- NOTHING can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. We can experience these truths, but we can also miss out on the victory. We must not only believe these promises, but live every day in light of them. Imagine the peace and joy from knowing that God is for us and nothing can stand against us. Walk in these truths and let the God's love and power affect every day of your life in every circumstance. "I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" Psalm 27:13-14