

Goodness, Groaning, Growth, and Glory (Romans 8:18-30)

Pastor Deric

(18) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. (19) For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope (21) that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

(22) For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. (23) And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

(24) For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? (25) But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

(26) Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (27) And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(28) And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (29) For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. (30) And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Practical Application

1. Review: Christian, you are forgiven. You are united with Christ. He was condemned in your place. There is no condemnation for you, and there never will be. Rest in Jesus today. Call out, cry out, and reach out to your Abba Father. Live your life in total dependence upon your Holy Heavenly Daddy. Abba Father is enough for you.
2. God is good and made everything good in the beginning. Because of sin, all creation groans, including us. God is working all human history out for the good of those who love Him, and for His glory. In His goodness, God is growing us and will bring us home to eternal glory one day.
3. Suffering has a purpose, will not last forever for you (Christian), and can't compare to the good that you have coming to you. There is a purpose for all your pain.
4. Creation is waiting for all of God's children to embrace Him.
5. Because of sin, God subjected all He has made to the curse. But, in Jesus Christ, the curse can be lifted. He became a curse for us, so we might be blessed now and forever.
6. There is hope for all who trust in Jesus Christ because of the gracious blessing of God.
7. Jesus will set His people and all creation free forever.

8. The current state of groaning of the creation and of us is like the pains of childbirth. Wait patiently because a beautiful gift is coming that will make up for all the temporal pain.
9. Christian, you have been adopted, are being adopted, and your adoption will be fully realized when God brings you to your final home, and you experience the fullness of your eternal inheritance.
10. The redemptive work of Christ applies to our body, soul, and spirit. He will make us holistically healthy.
11. Salvation comes through hoping in Jesus. Put your hope fully in Him today.
12. God helps us every day in our weakness. The Holy Spirit prays for us in ways we don't even know how to.
13. The all-knowing Holy Spirit of God prays for us according to the perfect will of God.
14. If you love God, everything in this life will work together for your good.
15. God calls us to Himself that we might know Him, fulfill His plan and purpose for our lives, and come home to be with Him forever in His perfect timing.
16. God knows all things, including the future. In His perfect foreknowledge, He predestines His people to grow to become like Jesus.
17. Christian, you have been foreknown, loved, predestined, called, justified, and glorified.
18. Your salvation is secure. In His great goodness, God will complete what He has started.
19. As you groan now, keep trusting God's goodness, growing, and waiting with hopeful expectation for the eternal glory that awaits you. You will be glorified, the world will be glorious, and you will experience the glory of God forever.

Announcements

-New Members class is today (12-1pm). Lunch will be provided.

-Church Work Day: Saturday, February 10, at 8am

-Feb 11: Man Church, lunch, with guest speaker Andrew Varvoutis. Share Rick Burgess' (from Rick and Bubba) message on social media & by text to other men you think might benefit from this – See Brad Vick for more details.

-Feb 17 – Saturday – Winter Jam Christian Concert – Youth – See David Barrero