

The Groaning of Creation

Romans 8:18-22

I. The Weight of Present Suffering (v. 18)

- A. A sanctified calculation
- B. The heaviness of “present sufferings”
- C. The incomparable glory

II. The Frustration of Creation (vv. 19–20)

- A. Creation is personified
- B. What is creation waiting for?
- C. Why is creation groaning

III. The Hope of Liberation (v. 21)

- A. Bondage to corruption
- B. Set free into glory

IV. The Groaning of a World in Labor (v. 22)

- A. Groaning together
- B. Birth pains — Not funeral pains

TAKE HOME:

- What suffering or “groaning” are you interpreting as hopeless—when God means it to drive you toward hope in Christ and the coming glory?
- Where have you been trying to build “heaven on earth”—treating comfort, control, health, or stability as ultimate—rather than living as someone headed for resurrection and renewal?
- How would your week change if you consciously reframed today’s headlines and your own hardships as “birth pains”—not funeral pains—because God is moving history toward liberation?