

Jessica Pelanda  
Romans 8:18-39  
2.22.26

## I. Intro

- A. Vocation: a special function of an individual or group. It seems that the main thing that gets in the way of our vocation is suffering.
- B. Redirecting the audience to what matters.
- C. "IF/THEN" statement

Notes:

## II. Groaning for Glory: 8:18-27

- A. Verse 18 is a "hinge"
  - 1. How is suffering not worth comparing to glory?
  - 2. NASB "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are *not worthy* to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us."
  - 3. 2 Corinthians 4:16-17
  - 4. 1 Peter 4:12-16
  - 5. Suffering is worth glory. To whatever degree that suffering has impacted you glory swallows it up.

Notes:

- B. Creation groans for glory... (v.19-22)
  - 1. Matthew 6:26-27
  - 2. God is the main character
  - 3. Creation links us back to Genesis - Genesis 1:26-28

4. Genesis 3, the curse, and crown
5. Why is creation still groaning? Genesis 1:11, 1:20, 1:22, 1:24
6. How it groaning? Extinction and endangered

Notes:

C. We Groan for glory (v. 23-25)

1. Holy Spirit as first fruits
2. Cain and Abel. Cain was a \_\_\_\_\_ and he brought whatever he wanted from his yield. Abel was a \_\_\_\_\_ and he brought a \_\_\_\_\_. The Lord accepted Abel's offering. But He did not accept Cain's.
3. Firstfruits are the initial harvest and in context this is what is acceptable to offer to God.
4. Proverbs 3:5-12
5. Abel trusted in the Lord, while Cain relied on his own understanding, Abel didn't seek to be wise in his own eyes - he feared the Lord and turned from evil, while his brother Cain gave into evil. Abel honored God with the first of what he had, Cain did not. Abel did not despise the Lord's instruction, while Cain loathed discipline.
6. A firstfruits reversal! Who is giving and who is getting: God is giving to us and it is His Spirit
7. Having the Spirit gives us a foretaste of what more is to come, which makes everything about this world come into focus. We start to look around and see it is not supposed to be this way.

Notes:

D. Spirit Groans (V. 26-27)

1. Verse 26 is not referring to moments of weakness, but is telling us we are in a continual state of weakness. The Greek here may include physical, emotional, and spiritual disability. And the Spirit helping you in this weakness is conveying Him carrying a heavy load for you that you can't carry yourself.
2. Example of weakness: prayer
3. Three groaning: 1. creation is a lament - suffering. 2. The groaning of God's people is involuntary due to undesirable circumstances. 3. The groaning of the Spirit is involuntary expressions of great concern.
4. Ephesians 6:18

Notes:

**III. Working All Things Verse 28-30**

A. Know

1. information that is well-known fact and widely accepted

B. Good

1. This is "ultimate good"
2. Inward good, your character
3. 2 Corinthians 4:16; 1 Peter 1:3-7, 2 Peter 1:3-8

C. Love

1. agape - here is an outgoing affection that does not expect anything in return

D. The good that God is working us all toward to being conformed to the image of His Son

E. Back to “know” what is the knowledge the people in the room would have had?

1. To them, who did God foreknow? Who had been predestined to be conformed to His Son? Who had been called? Justified? Glorified?

2. Romans 11:2, Jeremiah 1:5, Deuteronomy 7:6-8, Romans 11:28-29, Genesis 12:2-3, Isaiah 43:1,21, Romans 11:26-27

3. When life is hard, or the world looks ridiculous, this is what we are supposed to *know* and remember - His faithfulness to Israel - the example God chose to remind us of who He is and how He works for us now.

4. “Christians, don’t worry we know (from past experience) that God always works out everything for those who love God and are called to follow Him. If you want proof, look at those God previously knew, loved, & called in the past, He determined them to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that His Son would become the firstborn of many brethren.”

F. Buzz Word...

1. Predestination in the Bible:

Acts 4:28 - God predestined the cross of Christ

Romans 8:29 - Believers are predestined to be like Jesus

Romans 8:30 - Believers predestined to be like Jesus are called, justified, and glorified

1 Corinthians 2:7 God predestined to include Gentiles among God’s people

Ephesians 1:5 Believers are predestined for adoption (a future event)

Ephesians 1:11 Believers are predestined to obtain an inheritance

Notes:

#### **IV. Rhetorical Questions about God’s Plan of Redemption Verses 31-36**

- A. Essentially, 31 is saying “so what do you have to say about that?!”
- B. How does Paul answer these questions?  
Who is against you?  
Who brings accusations?  
Who condemns?
- C. 7-fold example of suffering - unique to Paul 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 he lists his sufferings for following Christ
- D. Matthew 10:16
- E. The only one who can do any of this TO you, is the One who is FOR you, therefore NO ONE can be against the you if you are in Christ Jesus

Notes:

**V. Nothing can Separate Us Verses 37-39**

- A. More than conquerors.
  - 1. “You keep on being conquerors to a greater degree” or “You keep on winning a glorious victory
- B. 10 extremes - a complete picture of what cannot separate you from God’s love
  - 1. The extremes of existence: death and life.
  - 2. The extremes of created spiritual armies: angels and demons.
  - 3. The extremes of time: present and future.
  - 4. The extreme of spiritual enemies: devil, demons (world powers).
  - 5. The extremes of space: height and depth.
  - 6. The extreme of nothing in all God’s creation

C. Remember the disciples and how they died

1. 1John 3:2

2. John 20:29

**For them and for then:**

Suffering is not your end glory is.

**For us and for always:**

Suffering is not your end glory is.

**For me and for now:**

Suffering is not your end glory is.