LIBERTI

ROMANS 8:18-23 ESV

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.

1. MAN'S FINAL REDEMPTION

ROMANS 8:19 ESV

⁹ For the **creation waits** with eager longing for **the revealing of the sons of God**.

2. CREATION'S LIBERTATION

ROMANS 8:20-21 ESV

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.

3. GROANING FOR GLORY

ROMANS 8:22-23 ESV

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**.

In the spring, it seems as if creation is trying to perfect itself, it seems to be going through a kind of birth pangs year by year. But unfortunately, it doesn't succeed, for spring leads only to summer, summer leads to autumn, and autumn back to winter. Poor old nature tries every year to defeat the vanity, the principle of death and decay and disintegration that is in it, but it can't do it. It fails every time. It still goes on trying as if it feels things should be different and better, but it never succeeds, so it goes on groaning and travailing in pain. It has been doing that for so very long."

DAVID MARTYN LLOYD-JONES

JOHN 16:20-22 ESV

²⁰ You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18 ESV

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.