

The Future, Secured

Glory

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” – Verse 18

Glory greater than our sufferings

Shadows of our future selves

“It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest most uninteresting person you can talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship! ... There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations – these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat.” – C.S. Lewis

Glory greater than our own little glories

Hope

“We groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.” – Verses 23, 24 and 25

Adoption as sons

Redemption of our bodies

Freedom

“...in hope 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.” – Verse 21

Glorious freedom!

Contrasted with futility

Contrasted with bondage

Contrasted with corruption

Eternal freedom

Questions for Personal Study

1. If you had to choose one, which is most exciting for you? Glory, hope, or freedom?
2. What are the two parts of our hope according to verse 23? Why are they both important?
3. Why is this passage another reason to praise Jesus?
4. Is there someone you should share this news with?