

Hope That Holds: Trusting God Through the Groaning

Text: Romans 8:18-25

Context - Paul has taken us through Justification in Romans 3:21-5:21, Sanctification in 6:1-8:11, and now Glorification in Romans 8:12-39.

As you look with hope towards the future glory...

I. _____ present sufferings to the glory to come (vs. 18)

- A. "...a book on suffering which says nothing of heaven, is leaving out almost the whole of one side of the account. Scripture and tradition habitually put the joys of heaven into the scale against the sufferings of earth, and no solution of the problem of pain which does not do so can be called a Christian one." (CS Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*)
- B. "While other worldviews lead us to sit in the midst of life's joys, foreseeing the coming sorrows, Christianity empowers its people to sit in the midst of this world's sorrows, tasting the coming joy." (Tim Keller, *Walking with God through Pain and Suffering*)

II. _____ towards the redemption of the sons of men (vs. 19-23)

- A. "The creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God, for it knows that their redemption will bring its own liberation from bondage." (John Piper, Sermon "Subjected in Hope")
- B. "The redemption of God's people is tied to the renewal of all creation, and both wait eagerly for the day of glorification." (Douglas Moo, *The Epistle to the Romans* (NICNT))

III. _____ for it with patience (vs. 24-25)

- A. "Hope is the Christian's posture in the face of an unseen future glory—it is not wishful thinking, but a patient, confident waiting for God's promises." (Tim Keller, *Romans 8-16 For You*)
- B. "The patience of hope is not passive; it is an active waiting, a clinging to the certainty of God's future glory despite present trials." (Charles Spurgeon, Sermon "The Hope That Does Not Disappoint")
- C. "Our hope is not in what we see now, but in the unseen glory to come, and this hope fuels our patient endurance through life's trials." (J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*)