

BIG IDEA: Present suffering is real, but it cannot compare with the glory God will reveal. We wait with hope, and the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness.

From no condemnation to future glory

Romans 8:1–17 reminds us that those who are in Christ are free from condemnation, set free from sin and death, empowered by the Spirit, and adopted as children of God. As children, we are heirs with Christ—sharing in His sufferings now and His glory to come.

Present suffering and future glory

Romans 8:18 “I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”

- Paul does not treat suffering as trivial. He points us toward a glory so great that present suffering cannot compare.
- Our hope is more than escaping earth for heaven. Christ will return, our bodies will be redeemed, and all things will be renewed. See Philippians 3:20–21.

Creation groans for renewal

Romans 8:19–22 Creation has been subjected to frustration and remains in bondage to decay. The brokenness that entered through sin reaches beyond humanity; the whole creation groans for freedom.

- Genesis 3:17–18 — Human rebellion brought judgment, and even the ground was cursed.
- The pains of childbirth are painful, but they point toward new life. Creation’s groaning is not hopeless; renewal is coming.

We groan while we wait

Romans 8:23–25 We have the firstfruits of the Spirit and already belong to God’s family, but we still await the full inheritance—the redemption of our bodies.

- This life is not as good as it gets. Sickness, weakness, decay, and death will not have the final word.
- Hope looks toward what we do not yet see. We wait patiently because we know the end of the story.

The Spirit helps in our weakness

Romans 8:26–27 When suffering leaves us without words, the Spirit helps us. He intercedes for God’s people in perfect agreement with the will of God.

- We do not have to pretend to be strong. We can lean upon God in the middle of hardship.
- When pain is deeper than our vocabulary, the Spirit does not wait for us to find the right words.

OUR HOPE: *“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.”* **Revelation 21:3–4**