

A marble bust of a man with curly hair and a beard, wearing a draped garment, sits atop a fluted column. The background is a light blue, marbled texture.

ROMANS

The Gospel According to Paul

“What and Why is the Believer’s Hope?”

Our Identity, pt. iii

Rom. 8:18-39

Romans, chs. 1-8

- **The Gospel**

- ***Man's starting point before God**

- ***How we try to fix our unrighteousness**

- ***The ONLY sufficient Justification**

- ***The Believer's new Identity!**

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- Vv 18-22 *“all of creation groans...”*

(1) We live in a system that bears the curse of sin

a) Eve's sin and consequence: Childbirth pain

b) Adam's sin and consequence: Cursed ground

Gen. 3:16-17

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- Vv 18-22 *“all of creation groans...”*

(2) BUT Believer's are poised to look FORWARD!

a) “...the glory TO BE revealed in us...” (18)

b) “...creation waits ... for the revealing...” (19)

c) “...creation itself WILL BE set free...” (21)

d) “...creation groans...until now...” (22)

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- *Vv 23-27 “we await our adoption as sons...”*

(1) The Now (suffering) and the Not Yet (glory)

a) *We are “officially”* adopted (8:15-17)

-But there will be depth and intimacy to come

b) Our bodily Redemption is also promised (23)

- for which we “wait eagerly” (25)

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- *Vv 23-27 "the Spirit intercedes for us with groans..."*

(2) The Spirit pleads for us in our weakness

a) When we struggle, when we doubt

b) B/c we don't know what's best for us

c) B/c we don't know the future

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- *Vv 28-34 "Those whom He foreknew He predestined..."*
 - (1) **The GOSPEL: *God did everything. We did Nothing.***
 - a) **Foreknew (in our Condition!)**
 - b) **Predestined (in spite of our Unrighteousness)**
 - c) **Called (out of our rebellion, enmity, hostility)**
 - d) **Justified (Christ trades His perfection for my sin)**
 - e) **Glorified (the "Not Yet" for which we hope)**
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What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- *Vv 28-34 "If God is for us, who can be against us?"*

(2) What can Believer's trust?

- a) We are being conformed to Christ-likeness
- b) God is FOR us
- c) The evidence God is "all-in" is Jesus!
- d) Christ's righteousness protects/identifies us

Isaiah 50:8-9

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- Vv 35-39 *“Who will separate us from the Love of God?”*

(1) The LOVE of GOD is our foundation

a) nothing can separate us from it

b) It is the reason for victory in suffering/death

c) It is not “ethereal” – it can be SEEN in Christ's
life and death!

Deut. 7:6-8

What and Why is the Believer's Hope?

- *Where do you go when you are weighted down by the brokenness of this present system? Does it satisfy?*
- *Why does it matter that the Spirit intercedes for us?*
- *How are you cooperating with or resisting the formation of Christ-likeness in you?*