

INSIDEout Series
Part 2, Week 6 outline
4.25.2021
Romans 8:18-27

Present Suffering, Future Glory and the Holy Spirit

Scripture Context

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. (Romans 8:17)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. (Romans 5:1-5)

I. Hope in Future Glory in the Midst of Present Suffering (8:18-25)

Present Suffering and Future Glory involves:

A. Inseparable but NOT Comparable Togetherness

1. This hope is not comparable to the toughest circumstances in our lives (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)
2. This hope is not only not comparable to the toughest circumstances in our lives but also to the very BEST things in our lives

"Indeed, if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-heart creatures fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea"

- C.S. Lewis, Weight of Glory

B. Past, Present, and Future

1. This Age and The Age to Come
2. The Already and the Not Yet
3. Justification (Past) —> to Sanctification (Present) —> to Glorification (Future)

C. God's Creation and God's Children

1. Groan Inwardly
2. Wait Eagerly
3. Hope Patiently

II. Another Helper Named the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17)

The Holy Spirit — Who is He? (8:23-27)

A. The Holy Spirit — Gives us today the firstfruits of future inheritance

Firstfruits

- Evidence of a PRESENT salvation
- Pledge of our FUTURE inheritance
- Down payment of our FUTURE in the PRESENT

B. The Holy Spirit — Helps us in our weakness

Helper / Advocate

- Speaking in the theater of our hearts
- Speaking to us for us
- Speaking through “the means of grace”

C. The Holy Spirit — Intercedes for us for we do not know what to pray for as we ought

Intercessor / Advocate

- Intercedes for us who are the saints
- Intercedes in spite of us who do not know what to pray
- Intercedes on our behalf through the Trinity

Scripture Context

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)

THE GOSPEL IS THE FOUNDATION
THAT PRODUCES THE SALVATION
ON WHICH THIS HOPE IS SECURED