

WAITING Patiently and Eagerly ~ Romans 8:18-25

→Scripture Reading Rom. 8:18-23

INTRODUCTION

^{8:15} For you did not receive the spirit of slavery leading again to fear, but you received the Spirit of ADOPTION, by whom we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears WITNESS to our spirit that we ARE God's children. (NET)

^{8:17} 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.

Creation in Bondage and DECAY ~ Romans 8:18-21

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

¹⁹ The whole creation is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the sons of God coming into their own. (JBP)

²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, **in hope** ²¹ **that** the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

Isaiah 65:17 (NIV) ...I will CREATE new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

When God's program of salvation for people is completed and the children of God together experience their glorious freedom from sin, Satan, and physical decay, then the creation itself will be liberated from its Bondage to Decay. BKC

IMPLICATIONS

→The GLORY that is Coming cannot COMPARE to our Current Suffering

¹⁸ Yet what we suffer now is NOTHING compared to the glory He will reveal to us later. (NLT)

1 John 3:2 (NIV) ...when He appears, we shall be LIKE Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

2 Corinthians 4:16-17 (NIV) ...we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being RENEWED day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far OUTWEIGHS them all.

Saved in HOPE ~ Romans 8:23-25

²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

2 Corinthians 5:1-2 (HCS) ...we GROAN in this body, desiring to put on our dwelling from heaven...

^{5:2} ...we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing. (NLT)

Our lives consist of groans. We groan because of the ravages that sin makes in our lives, and in the lives of those we love. Also we groan because we see possibilities that are not being captured and employed. And then we groan because we see gifted people who waste their lives. ...So we groan in our spirits, we groan in disappointment, we groan in bereavement, we groan in sorrow. We groan physically in our pain and our limitation. In life there is a lot of groaning. Steadman

²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

The New Testament word for HOPE contains NO uncertainty; it speaks of something that is CERTAIN, but not yet realized. MacArthur

IMPLICATIONS

→ This World is NOT Our HOME

²³ ...We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our FULL RIGHTS as His adopted children, including the new bodies He has promised us. ²⁴ We were given this HOPE when we were SAVED... (NLT)

1 Peter 1:1...God's chosen people who are **living AS foreigners**...(NLT) ¹...**temporary residents**... (HCS)

^{2:11} Dear friends, I urge you, as **Aliens and Strangers** in the world... (NIV)

Titus 2:11-14 (NIV) For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to ALL men. ¹² It teaches us to say NO to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

¹³ while we WAIT for the BLESSED HOPE - the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us to REDEEM us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, EAGER to do what is GOOD.

TAKE AWAY ??

→ We Must WAIT Eagerly and Expectantly for Jesus to RETURN

²⁵ But if we HOPE for what we do NOT yet have, we WAIT for it PATIENTLY.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV) ...we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far OUTWEIGHS them all.

¹⁸ So we fix our eyes NOT on what is seen, but on what is UNSEEN. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is ETERNAL.

Hebrews 12:3 (ESV) Consider Him who endured from sinners such HOSTILITY against Himself, so that you may NOT grow weary or fainthearted.