

The Best News in the World – Romans 8

Romans 8:18-30

"Our Confident Hope of Salvation" – October 31, 2021



Introduction

Everyone is experiencing some level of stress these days. We read in God's word that we should expect trouble ([John 15:18-21](#); [16:33](#)). Christians will have tribulation and suffer persecution in this life. The question is – how are you handling these trials and persecution? Are you avoiding or trusting? We can live with confident hope.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. God's plan for revealing our future glory Vs. 18 - 25
- II. God's provision for sustaining our future glory Vs. 26 - 30

Read & Discuss

1) Read 8:18-25

The believer should expect suffering. The world will not get better. However, believers can have a confident hope that God will take them from grace to glory! The Trinity works in unison to accomplish this.

- The Father chooses who will come to Him by faith – that is election.
- The Son redeems us by His death on the cross – that is justification.
- The Holy Spirit conforms us to the image of Christ – that is sanctification.
- The Son will come back to take us home – that is glorification.

Right now, creation groans because it is not what it is intended to be. Mankind and all creation are not fulfilling the desired goal and purpose for which God made it. Creation is expecting a new heaven and a new earth.

The believer groans too. We are aware of our own sins and how they grieve God. We are also aware that our bodies weren't made to last forever. We "eagerly await for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies" (Vs. 25). We place our hope in the promises of God. He is faithful. His promises are faithful.

In what circumstances of your life do you need to wait patiently for God to act? What frustrations do Christians feel as they wait for Christ to return? What specific promises of God give you hope for your day-to-day struggles as well as ongoing trials in life?

Additional Reading: Genesis 3:1-19, Philippians 1:6, Revelation 21, Isaiah 65:17-19, 2 Peter 3:10-13

2) Read 8:26-30

The Holy Spirit gives and sustains our hope. Creation groans. Believers groan. And the Holy Spirit groans in accordance with God's perfect will. He is interceding for us when we do not know what to pray.

God is working all things together – the good, the bad, the happy, the sad – for the good of those who love Him. We will have trials, and we may not understand it all. But we will also have great blessings.

God has predestined believers to become like Christ. That is the direct opposite of futility. God's purpose and goal for you is that you would be conformed to the image, likeness, and character of Christ. God will take His elect from grace to glory. We have the confident hope of complete and final salvation.

In what circumstances do Christians find it hard to pray? What do we learn about God's love for us when we realize that the Holy Spirit helps us even when we cannot pray? What gives Christians confidence as they go through hard times? How are you handling these trials and persecution? Are you avoiding or trusting? How can you commit your difficult circumstances to God this week?

Additional Reading: John 14:16-17; 26, John 15:26-27, John 16:7-11; 13-14

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to John 18:1-27 " Betrayed, Denied, & Questioned "
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