

Sermon Series: Romans

Sermon Text: Romans 8:18-25 Endurance of Hope

Joseph—suffering to glory

David—suffering to glory

The Holy Spirit increases our endurance through present suffering with the hope of future glory.

1) God's children need endurance for suffering.

- a) Personal Suffering
 - i) v. 18 "sufferings of this present time"
 - ii) v. 23 "we groan inwardly as we wait"
- b) Cosmic Suffering
 - i) v. 20 "the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it"
 - ii) v. 22 "the whole creation has been groaning in the pains of childbirth until now"
- c) Endurance: v. 25 "we wait for it with patience"
- d) **Application:**
 - i) Doctrine:
 - (1) The children of God still suffer in this fallen world.
 - (2) Perseverance in faith is necessary.
 - ii) Correction:
 - (1) The prosperity gospel misleads with an over-realized eschatology.
 - (2) The prosperity gospel idolizes comfort.
 - iii) Encouragement:
 - (1) Suffering for God's children is not a sign of God's indifference or displeasure, but a means of perfecting our faith and love (1 Pet. 1:6-7).
 - (2) 1 Peter 4:12-13 "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed."

2) The Spirit gives hope for endurance.

- a) Hope of Glorification
 - i) v. 18 "not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us"
 - ii) v. 19 "the revealing of the sons of God"
 - iii) v. 21 "the freedom of the glory of the children of God"
 - iv) v. 23 "adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies"
- b) Hope of New Creation
 - i) v. 21 "the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God"
 - ii) v. 22 "the pains for childbirth"
- c) First Fruits of Hope from the Spirit: v. 23 "we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit"
- d) Full Harvest of Hope Not Yet Seen
 - i) v. 24a "For in this hope we were saved."

- ii) v. 24b “Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?”
 - iii) v. 25 “But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with endurance.”
- e) **Application:**
- i) Doctrine:
 - (1) Glorification includes the resurrection of the body to immortality and the perfection of the soul in love.
 - (2) Because God delights in creation as man’s original dominion and inheritance, He is redeeming it from corruption.
 - ii) Correction: Dualisms that disparage the body or material creation do not honor God, the Creator for His wisdom and goodness.
 - iii) Encouragement:
 - (1) Know the promises of God. Know what your inheritance is in Christ.
 - (2) Hope is God’s purifying power of the future for your present sanctification. 1 John 3:2-3
“Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself even as He is pure.”

The Holy Spirit increases our endurance through present suffering with the hope of future glory.
Christ—suffering to glory

Doxology: To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (Rev. 1:5b-6)