Groaning to Glory Romans 8:17-27 **Rev. Dustin A. Largent**

- Knew you'd inherit 50 Million in 3 years. Affect how you live today?
 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.
- We are heirs, but there is a condition to our inheritance. "Share in his sufferings". Suffering? That doesn't sound good. It's a condition but you can't avoid it if you are a believer. It's part of being in the family.
- What is this suffering? Some is persecution as believer, but some is the direct result of Adam's sin. Fallen world. Fallen people.
 - Sickness, hunger, pain, hurt by someone, disappointment. . .
- Both the believer and the unbeliever will suffer, but the believer has hope. He has assurance. The 50 million is waiting there.
- The believer has also will suffer for holiness and righteousness like Jesus did. It's a condition you can't get out of.

we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

- What is this glory we will share with Christ? part of our inheritance.
 - **1.** Our Glory isn't earned. Part of our inheritance.
- ¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
 - 2. Our Glory is "Revealed in us". So, this glory is something we share with Christ and is already ours. We don't see it yet because our bodies and this earth haven't been redeemed yet.
 - Our Glory is not worth comparing with our present <u>suffering</u>.
 Glory 50 million times suffering.
- **2 Corinthians 4:17** ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.
- 19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. People aren't the only ones affected by sin. All creation and its creatures are.
- 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 freedom and glory of the children of God.
- Sin brought bondage and decay. Sin is the cause of what we know as the 2nd law of thermodynamics. "The measure of entropy (or disorder) always increases over time.
 - 4. Our Glory has a lot to do with <u>freedom</u>.
 - a. Freedom from all sin has hindered us from. Peace, joy, pain, anxiety, hurt, broken relationship, racism, classism,
- ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.
- Ever been in pain physical, mental or social and you groan can't even say anything? All you can do is groan?
 Maybe that was you getting out of bed this morning.

- Groaning comes from Three different places.
 The first place groaning is coming from is CREATION.
- Why is the whole creation groaning?
- Everything under Man's dominion fell with him.
- Creation is waiting to be restored to its glory and it looks like this: Isaiah 65:25 The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the LORD. This is glory for creation. Peace, not decay, life & freedom.
- It says creation is groaning in pain, but notice it is pain with a purpose; like childbirth. The pain is proof of the glory to come.

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

The 2nd place groaning is coming from is US.

- Why are we groaning? Because the Holy Spirit it us has given us taster of our inheritance but we are stuck in our unredeemed bodies in an unredeemed world. The difference is incomprehensible.
- So, life here makes you groan. Creation groans, You groan, I groan ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.
- How do you get through the sufferings of life? For the believer, its hope in the promise of the glory revealed in us and for us.
- Like our earlier example, we know there's 50 million waiting if I can just hold on and suffer through until then.
 The 3rd place groaning is coming from is the Holy Spirit.
 Why is the Holy Spirit groaning?
- Because the Holy Spirit is in unredeemed body of the believer and is groaning on our behalf with perfect desire for our Glory.
- ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. This isn't tongues. It's groaning and not coming out of us. Holy Spirit intercedes and Christ is interceding. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.
- Everyone suffers. But the unbeliever suffers on this earth only to face more suffering after death. They don't groan as we do because they don't have the Holy Spirit and don't know the glory or understand their suffering.
- And when the believer suffers & can't even pray or doesn't know how to pray, the Holy Spirit groans to God for the right things because the Holy Spirit is God and knows God's will.
- Walking from Atkinson to Geneseo to take possession of 50 Million and car breaks down. The car don't matter much does it?