

Romans 8:18-30

The Future Glory

- ◆ I consider that what we suffer at this present time cannot be compared at all with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. All of creation waits with eager longing for God to reveal his children. For creation was condemned to lose its purpose, not of its own will, but because God willed it to be so. Yet there was the hope that creation itself would one day be set free from its slavery to decay and would share the glorious freedom of the children of God. For we know that up to the present time all of creation groans with pain, like the pain of childbirth. But it is not just creation alone which groans; we who have the Spirit as the first of God's gifts also groan within ourselves as we wait for God to make us his children and set our whole being free. For it was by hope that we were saved; but if we see what we hope for, then it is not really hope. For who of us hopes for something we see? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. In the same way the Spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express. And God, who sees into our hearts, knows what the thought of the Spirit is; because the Spirit pleads with God on behalf of his people and in accordance with his will. We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose. Those whom God had already chosen he also set apart to become like his Son, so that the Son would be the first among many believers. And so those whom God set apart, he called; and those he called, he put right with himself, and he shared his glory with them.
- ◆ This world we live in is going to end according to God's will. All the pain we suffer is nothing compared to the glory that God will reveal to us, hence, we should be faithful beings so as to receive this glory. All creation waits eagerly for God to reveal his children and more so those who have the Spirit wait the more eagerly to be made God's children. So whilst all creation awaits for God's children to be announced there are those who await to be made God's children: which are we? When we've faith in Christ and live according to the instructions he left us, we'll receive God's gift of the Spirit.
- ◆ We live with hope that God will make us his children and share with us his glory; this hope should help us do our best to live according to his commands. We humans are weak, we lack knowledge and we fall short of God's high standards, hence, God has given us his spirit that empowers/strengthens/helps us. We don't know how to pray, the spirit intercedes on our behalf; the spirit strengthens us where we lack and is our helper always. Through the spirit God knows what's in our hearts and thoughts and he makes all things work well for those who truly love him. He has also chosen his people, set them apart to be like his Son, put them right with him and shared his glory with them.