

Deeper Life Notes

A Story Worth Telling - "What does the future hold?" Romans 8:18-23
Pastor Dan Osborn: October 15, 2017



Watertown
Evangelical
Free Church

Warm up

What is an example of comparing "apples to oranges" in life?

*Comparing our present existence (suffering included) with the future glory of being with God in the restoration of all things is definitely an "apples to oranges" comparison!

Context

Read Romans 8:16-17

What things are said in these verses about those who trust Christ?

Key Scripture

Read Romans 8:18-23

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (ESV)

3 Dares to Compare from Romans 8:18

1. Compare through calculation ("For I consider...")

2. Compare the present times with glory

a) All of creation "groans" (vv.19-22)

b) Believers "groan" (v.23) -- also see 2 Corinthians 5:2-4

See your suffering in perspective:

- See sin for what it is: horrific!
- Acknowledge God's sovereignty (Romans 8:28)
- Don't make it more than it is: temporary! (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)
- Refuse to believe you are alone in suffering: universal! (Acts 14:22, Philippians 1:29)
- Hang on to Hope!

3. Compare glory with the present times (_____¹ only!)

5 Certain Truths from Romans 8:18-23 to Set your Sights on:

1. Restored Vision (vv.18-19)

- a) Revelation of God's glory (John 17:24)
- b) Creation seeing glory in us (Romans 7:24, 2 Corinthians 4:7, Matthew 13:43)

2. _____² Hope (v.20)

3. Restored Creation (v.21)

(see Isaiah 65:17, Revelation 21:1-5, 2 Peter 3:13)

4. Restored _____³ (v.22)

"All pain leads to life." - John Piper ... "Suffering is at the heart of the Christian story." - Tim Keller

5. Restored Bodies (v.23)

(see 1 Corinthians 15:51-58)

¹ believers

² Realized

³ Living