

How Are You Living?
Romans 8: 12-17

December 8, 2024

Sin

Salvation

**Sancti-
fication**

Sovereignty

Service

So Long



A close-up photograph of a human hand, palm facing up, wearing a white long-sleeved garment. The hand is positioned against a bright, golden-yellow background that has a soft, glowing effect. The lighting is warm and directional, coming from the upper left, casting soft shadows on the hand and the sleeve. The overall mood is one of hope, offering, and divine presence.

GOD'S BLESSINGS are
ENDLESS.

Verse 12 - 13

How are you living?
A life or death matter

Paul's focus:

Brethren, true believers

This is talking about a believer sinning away the grace and mercy God offers over and over

This is speaking about physical death

Scripture warnings concerning willful disobedience and physical death:

[1 Corinthians 11:30](#)

[1 John 5:16](#)

It is very dangerous to flaunt God's grace and mercy!

Verse 14 - 15

How are you living?


Led by the Spirit - Changed!

Led by the Spirit comes with yielding to the Spirit's control of your life

Being led by the Spirit is an indication you are a son of God

Son = "*huios*" = a son, growing in maturity, taking on the characteristics of his father (GOD)

God to Israel facing promised land giants; by extension, you today in the land of the giants:

A silhouette of a hiker with a large backpack stands on the peak of a mountain, looking out over a vast landscape. The scene is set against a warm, golden sunset sky with soft, glowing light. The hiker is positioned on the left side of the frame, facing right.

"Be strong and of good courage,
do not fear nor be afraid of them;
for the Lord your God,
He is the One
who goes with you.
He will not leave you
nor forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6

Believers are adopted into the family of God, as a child of God

Adoption = making a stranger, such as a sinner, to be a real son

I can cry out to God at any moment,

“Abba, Father, I need you to help me”

God to the nation of Israel facing giants, a principle for us today:

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess.

Deuteronomy 30:15-18 NKJV

**All those led by the Spirit,
those who are “*huios*”,
those who are filled with the Spirit,
have one thing in common**

CHANGE!

Verse 16 - 17

How are you living?
Joint heirs with Jesus

“The Spirit bears witness” – a legal term stating we belong to God

Does the Spirit bear witness by my feelings, my thoughts only, or is there more?

1 John is all about sanctification which demonstrates our justification (*really saved!*)

I no longer love the world system – **1 John 2: 15**

I obey the law of Christ – **1 John 2: 3**

I have love for the brethren – **1 John 3: 14**

I test the spirits to see if they are from God – **1 John 4: 1**

I know what is written, confirming eternal life – [1 John 5: 13](#)

[John 20: 31](#)

All true believers are *“heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ”*

We inherit, by grace, everything Jesus has by divine right

We are not Christ; we are not little gods, we are beneficiaries of being *“In Christ”*

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

We have everything Christ has including His suffering

“If indeed we suffer with Him” – verse 17

Suffering means to experience evil

You see suffering, EVIL, came with sin; sin brought pain, suffering and EVIL

What do we do with suffering?

*We try to insulate ourselves from suffering,
deny we are suffering, we pretend we are ok*

Jesus did not insulate Himself; Jesus did not deny suffering

We have a Savior who knows suffering like none of us know suffering

Jesus' ultimate suffering was on the cross when He cried, ***“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me.”***

This was crushing, devastating, spiritual suffering!

Jesus experienced all of humanity's sins placed on Him

It was at that moment that Jesus felt abandoned by God, alone, separated from all that is good!

Why must we suffer?

*Suffering is necessary to kill the flesh,
to break us from flesh control*

Trials and suffering are part of a process which prepares us for His eternal glory

Suffering is not for nothing! Romans 5: 3; James 1: 2

While here, remember, it's all temporary!

2 Cor 4:16-18

Therefore we do not lose heart.

Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

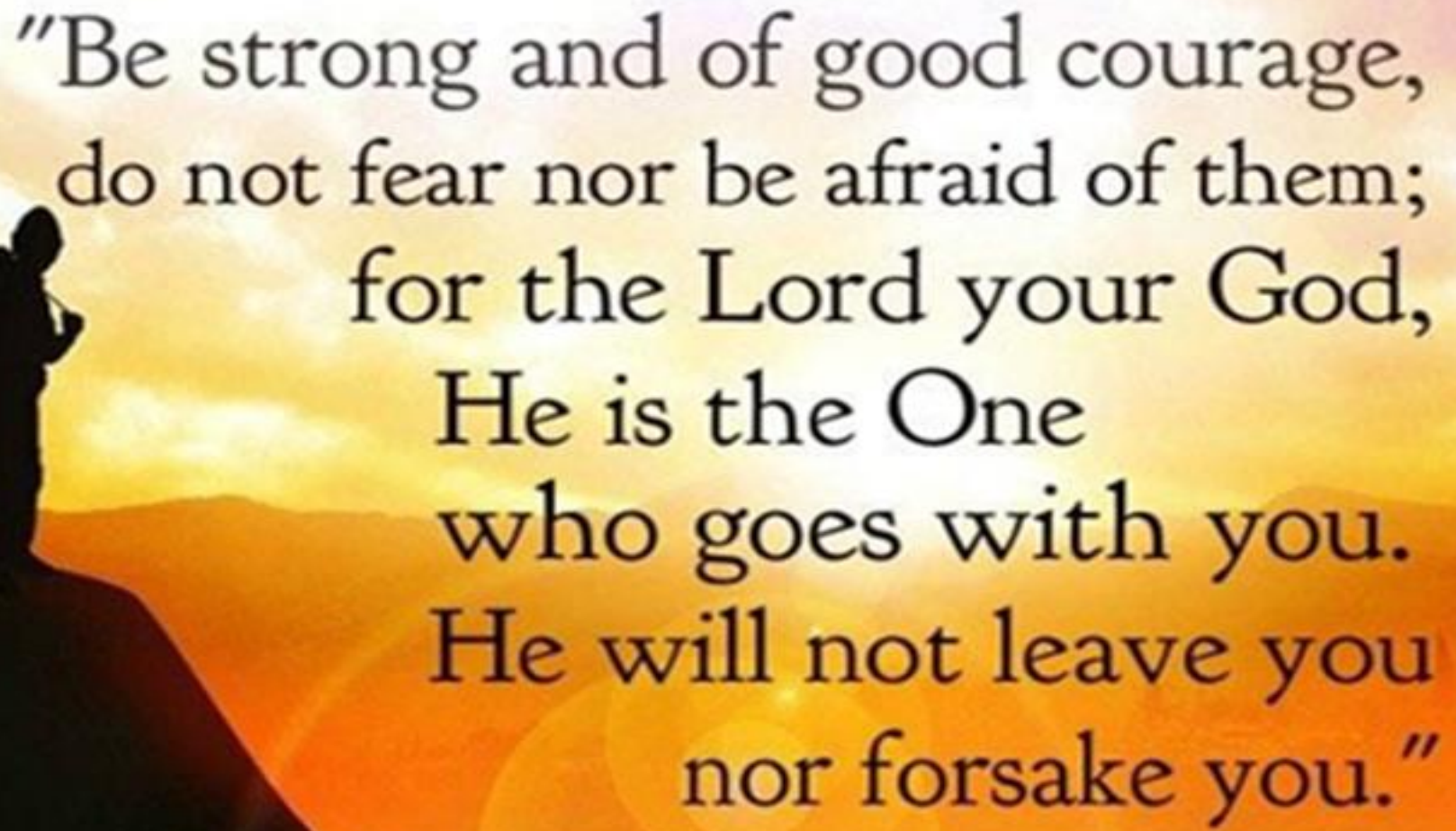
**Suffering changes
our perspective
from seen to
unseen!**

**Suffering helps
us understand
grief share!**



**While here,
remember**

**No matter what
happens**



“Be strong and of good courage,
do not fear nor be afraid of them;
for the Lord your God,
He is the One
who goes with you.
He will not leave you
nor forsake you.”

Deuteronomy 31:6

You are an Overcomer

1 JOHN 5:4

The Daily Promise

A silhouette of a person standing on a rock with arms raised in triumph against a dramatic, cloudy sky with a bright sunburst.