

TRUTH: We All Suffer
Romans 8: 18-27

January 5, 2025

Sin	Salvation	Sancti- fication	Sovereignty	Service	So Long
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Verse 18

TRUTH: We all suffer in various ways

Suffering is part of our fallen human condition – *no one is exempt!*

Suffering = “*pathema*” (from “*pasco*”) = to experience something evil; to suffer

Paul knew suffering – 2 Corinthians 4: 8

Paul makes an incredible statement on suffering:

2 Corinthians 4: 16-18

We must learn that all the sufferings:

“Are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.” Romans 8: 18

Verse 19 - 22

TRUTH: All of creation suffers

The **Second Law of Thermodynamics** is active today; the universe is running out of useable energy

All creation suffers damage, loss, deterioration, erosion, and death (*think fall, think sin*)



New Jerusalem
~1500 Miles Cubed

Now the whole creation groans

In the future, all creation will rejoice!

All will be made right in the eternal order

Verse 23 - 25

TRUTH: God's people do suffer

Contrary to popular opinion, your salvation did not exempt you from suffering

Old Testament prophets, disciples and the Early Church all suffered

Today, Christians throughout the world are suffering more than at any time in the history of the world

Believers have an incredible gift given to them at salvation

The ***“first fruits of the Spirit”*** – what is that?

Believers are sealed with the Holy Spirit at salvation, a guarantee of your inheritance

2 Corinthians 1: 22

Ephesians 1: 13-14

The Holy Spirit, deposited in you at salvation, is a guarantee of your glorification

Verse 26 - 27

TRUTH: The Holy Spirit helps with
our suffering

Groan = a deep articulate sound in response to pain or despair, an expression of discomfort

This groaning is not referring to tongues:

- 1) It is the Holy Spirit that groans, not the person**
- 2) Tongues are known languages, not groanings**
- 3) The gift of tongues was heard by men; these groanings are heard by God the Father**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, He intercedes for us directly to Father

The Holy Spirit is called the Helper – John 14: 16

The Holy Spirit is called alongside to help, not takeover!

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, does not carry the whole load, but helps us

The Holy Spirit helps the believer by praying for us, interceding for us to Father

What not to expect: God to do everything and you sit back and do nothing

Remember: The Holy Spirit is your Helper, not your enabler!



**"Wait... Wait!
I'm not ready!"**

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

We are all groaners because we are all experiencing distress of some sort

Many believers today do not embrace God's will in prayer

These believers claim their will, which becomes God's will; *they are sadly mistaken!*

No one can force God, manipulate God, or demand that God does what they want

AN IMPORTANT CONCEPT: *Our prayers are directed to God, not to direct God*

NEVER FORGET: *God is God, and we are not God!*

How do I pray rightly?

I can boldly approach the Throne of Grace with my petitions – Hebrews 4: 16

Boldly = “*parresia*” = unwavering, fearless, confidence of faith in God

I can boldly approach the Throne of God with great respect

I can boldly lay out my request before God, not my demand!

MY ATTITUDE: I am not directing you, God, I am looking to You to have *Your will done!*

TRUTH BE TOLD – We all suffer!

TRUTH BE TOLD – In the sufferings, believers have God

TRUTH BE TOLD – Suffering will one day end and not be remembered

TRUTH BE TOLD – We will be home soon and all will be well!

TRUTH BE TOLD – The Holy Spirit is your Helper, not enabler!

TRUTH BE TOLD – We are a people of HOPE!

God of Hope

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13 NIV



HOPE



CONFIDENT
EXPECTATION

(HEBREWS 6:19)

**Confident
expectation in
God; something
good is about to
happen**