



Romans 8:18-21

God's Glorious Plan of Redemption

- I. Introduction:** Paul declared that believers can endure the suffering of this present age because we know that a far greater glory is still to come.

- II. God's Glorious Plan of Redemption (Rom 8:18-21).**
 - A. The Triumph of Creation (v. 18).**
 - 1. Paul explained that the suffering we experience on Earth will be insignificant when we finally experience God's glory which will be revealed in us.

 - B. The Yearning of Creation (v. 19).**
 - 1. Paul proclaimed that creation itself longs for the day when it will be restored to its former glory, when Christ returns and glorifies His people.

 - C. The Futility of Creation (v. 20).**
 - 1. Paul proclaimed that God subjected creation to futility, but he was confident that one day it would be given even greater purpose and glory.

 - D. The Freedom of Creation (v. 21).**
 - 1. Paul declared that one day the creation will be set free from its slavery to decay and will become glorious again, even greater than Eden.

- III. Conclusion:** Paul explained that creation has been enslaved to corruption, and it longs for the day when God will free it from the curse and give it an even greater glory.



Questions About: God's Glorious Plan of Redemption

1. Why is there pain and suffering in the world? (**Rom 8:18-21**) Why does God allow them to exist? What is God's plan to eradicate sin from the universe once and for all? (**Rev 21:1-5**)
2. What did Paul say about suffering in the world? (**Rom 8:18**) How did Paul compare our suffering with our future glory? (**v. 18**) Why are they not comparable? (**2 Cor 4:16-18**)
3. What had God revealed to Paul about heaven's glory? (**2 Cor 12:1-4**) How did this affect the way Paul viewed death? (**Phil 1:21, 23**) How will God's glory be revealed in us? (**1 John 3:2**)
4. For what did Paul say that creation was anxiously longing? (**Rom 8:19**) What is the "revelation of the sons of God?" (**v. 19**) How are Christians one day going to be glorious? (**Col 3:4**)
5. Why did Paul say that creation was subjected to futility? (**Rom 8:20**) What did God do to creation because of humanity's sin? (**Gen 3:17-19**) Why did God curse creation?
6. Where do we see the effects of the curse today? Why did Paul say that creation was subjected to futility "in hope" (**Rom 8:20**) How is man's fate connected to the earth? (**Gen 1:26-28**)
7. How will God set creation free from its slavery to corruption? (**Rom 8:21**) How will the restoration of the earth take place in two stages? (**Isa 11:5-9; 35:1-7; 65:20, 25; Amos 9:13**)
8. How should the promises of God affect the way we live in a cursed world? What suffering or disappointment are you tempted to view temporally? How can this passage encourage you?

Prayer

1. Pray that God would help us view our suffering in light of the glory He has promised.
2. Ask God to help us invest our lives in reaching people with the hope of Christ.