

## Romans Refresh

Renewing Gospel-Centrality

1

## Romans 8:1-39

- a celebration of our hope – the assurance of future salvation
- an emphasis on the role and work of the Holy Spirit in our assurance

2

<sup>16</sup>The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*.

(Romans 8:16-17)

3

<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one also hope for what he sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

4

<sup>26</sup>In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; <sup>27</sup>and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*. <sup>28</sup>And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to *become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; <sup>30</sup>and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

(Romans 8:18-30)

5

## Suffering and Glory

Q: *How do we maintain hope in the midst of suffering?*

1. By knowing the unsurpassed glory of our future inheritance
  - presently we suffer from a sense of incompleteness; our remaining moral and physical infirmities
  - we long for the culmination of our adoption – the final transformation into the image of the Son

6

## Suffering and Glory

Q: *How do we maintain hope in the midst of suffering?*

2. By knowing the Spirit helps our weakness by His present intercession for us
  - the Spirit intercedes in perfect accord with the will of God so that it comes to pass for us

7

## Suffering and Glory

Q: *How do we maintain hope in the midst of suffering?*

3. By knowing that all things work for our good in accordance with God's eternal purpose
  - there is nothing in this life that is not intended by God for our spiritual, eternal good
  - this is true because God works to infallibly bring to pass His eternal purpose for those He has called

8

*"What then shall we say to these things?"*

9

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; <sup>34</sup> who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup> Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED."  
<sup>37</sup> But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

10

<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:31-39)

11

*"What then shall we say to these things?"*

- If God is for us...
  - No one can be ultimately against us
  - No one can bring a charge against us
  - No one can condemn or put us to shame
  - No one or nothing can separate us from Christ's love

12