



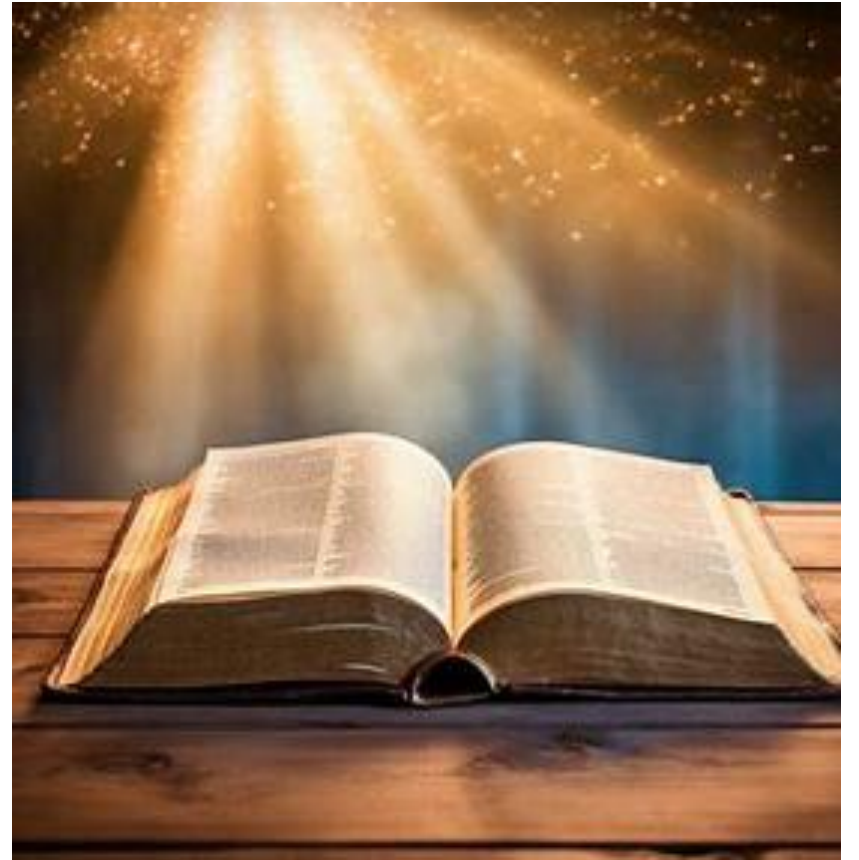
# The SALVATION Series

Part 13 – Groaning!

# Introduction...

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- Our journey through Romans 8 has been very fruitful and revelatory!
- We have learnt about the total freedom from Condemnation, the difference between Spirit of God and the spirit of man, the power to overcome sin, led by the Spirit of God, adoption and the Glory to come!
- Yet we are not even halfway through the chapter!
- Today we will pick up where we stopped last week and may travel a bit faster through the verses because of the powerful subject matter of today's study! Let us begin....



# Romans....

- <sup>18</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
- <sup>19</sup> For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits 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> because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
- <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.
- <sup>23</sup> Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body

# Present time...

- *<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*
- When was the last time you heard a sermon on suffering?
- The fathers of faith were well grounded in this matter.
- We do well to learn from their doctrine and foundational teaching
- If more Christians were grounded in this understanding, the Church will have more of the CHARACTER of Christ.



# Earnest....

- *<sup>19</sup>For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.*
- This is a very deep verse...
- It shows that humanity and creation are waiting for this era of God's Glory to be revealed in the redeemed Children of God.
- Some have taught that the Church must rise up to her full Glory and then even creation will change.
- It does not appear to be the sentiment of the passage.
- It appears to point to a time in the future and that's what Paul says in the next verses.
- Let's continue our reading...



# Futility...

- *<sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; NKJV*
  - For the creation was subjected to frustration *and* futility, not willingly [because of some intentional fault on its part], but by the will of Him who subjected it, in hope – AMP
  - Everything God made [ For the creation] was changed to become useless [subjected to futility /meaninglessness; Gen. 3; Eccl. 1:2],
  - not by its own wish but because God ·wanted [ subjected] it ·and because all along there was this hope [yet with the hope...]:EXB
- 
- There is a deep groan in the heart of men about the meaninglessness of life.
  - Even creation, the animals and created things are wondering what is going on
  - There is a HOPE: a light at the end of the tunnel that's saying all will make sense one day!
  - This meaninglessness is what turns many away from Hope and Faith in God to vanity.
  - One of the best things you can pass on to someone is HOPE! That there is a meaning to the madness

# One Day...

- *21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.*
- Hope says, “there will be change one day...”
- *12* looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames.
- *13* But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God’s righteousness.  
2 Peter 2:12-13
- Even creation will be ‘Born Again’



# Pangs...

- <sup>22</sup> *For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with **birth pangs** together until now.*
- <sup>7</sup> Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world.
- <sup>8</sup> But all this is only the first of the ***birth pains***, with more to come.
- A lot of the “climate change” campaigns are humanity’s way of warning about the Earth’s birth pangs



# Firstfruits...

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- *<sup>23</sup> Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body*
- The Holy Spirit in us is the 'firstfruits' of the Age to come/
- This means that Christians are forerunners of the world to come.
- We need to be telling people about the world to come and how to get there!
- We are waiting for Adoption?? But I thought we are already adopted!
- Yes, this time, it will be our physical bodies that will be transformed!!



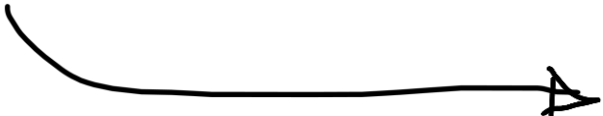
# Hope

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- <sup>24</sup> *We were given this hope when we were saved.*
- *(If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it.*
- <sup>25</sup> *But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)*
- In summary, Paul is highlighting the glorious future but stating that we have to be patient and wait!



# Likewise....

- *<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but*
  - *the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*
  - *<sup>27</sup> Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God..*
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- When read in context, this popular verse takes on a different angle and focus.
  - The Spirit is of the world to come
  - He helps our limitations
  - He speaks from a realm beyond our physical world and from there makes utterances that cannot be interpreted.
  - The Holy Spirit searches the depths of our hearts and spirit. The Holy Spirit then decodes for the saints what prayer aligns with God's heart

# The Deep...

- *27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*
- This is a very deep verse, and we will end our study here.
- Our spirit man knows things that we do not know.
- *14* For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful  
1 Corinthians 14:14
- The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart Proverbs 20:27
- Therefore, there is direct communication between your heart (spirit) and the Holy Spirit
- Your born-again spirit is like a treasure trove which contains lots of information.
- As we allow the Holy Spirit take control, we will have greater access to all that God has for us
- *9* But just as it is written, ***“Things that no eye has seen, or ear heard, or mind imagined, are the things God has prepared for those who love him.”***
- *10* God has revealed these to us by the Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 1 Corinthians 2:9-10
- It is time for us to search out the hidden things for our lives and destinies
- Trophies you put on display, but treasures are hidden away.



# Conclusion

- Born again Christians live in two realms – the spiritual and the physical.
- The spiritual realm of the Believer is the glorious light of His Righteousness and Life.
- This makes us uniquely different from other humans who are in a realm cut off from God.
- We groan inwardly because our physical bodies want to connect with that Light realm of God.
- Even creation is aware of this and eagerly longs for the Day God's Children will enter their full inheritance.
- In that Day, there will be a New Heaven and a New Earth.

# Family Time

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- Talk about the New Heaven and New Earth
- *<sup>12</sup> looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames.*
- *<sup>13</sup> But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness.*  
2 Peter 2:12-13
- What does it mean...?

