

MESSAGE NOTES

“Practical Teaching for Everyday Living”

LIVING IN THE OVERLAP

Romans: The Power of the Gospel

Romans 8:18-27

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We are living in the _____ Period of Time.

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. (Ro 8:17).

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. (Rom. 8:18)

THREE GROANS AND ONE GLORY

1. _____ GROAN and HOPE

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. (Rom. 8:19)

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in HOPE 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. (Rom. 8:20-21)

_____ the FALL of MAN

- Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground — everything that has the breath of life in it — I give every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning — the sixth day. (Gen. 1:28-31)

_____ the FALL of MAN

- To Adam he said “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.” (Genesis 3:17–19)

in HOPE 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. (Rom. 8:21-22)

2. _____ GROAN and HOPE

Not only so, **but we ourselves**, who have **the firstfruits of the Spirit**, **groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption** as sons, **the redemption of our bodies**. (Rom. 8:23)

- NOTICE - "**the firstfruits of the Spirit**" - HOPE - "**the redemption of our bodies**"

Now we know that if **the earthly tent we live in is destroyed**, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 **Meanwhile we groan**, longing to be **clothed with our heavenly dwelling**, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. (2 Cor. 5:1-3)

WAITING ON YOUR _____ LEANING FORWARD

For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has?
25 **But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.** (Rom. 8:24-25)

3. THE _____ GROAN AND HOPE

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. (Rom. 8:26)

- WHEN I DO NOT KNOW _____ - THE HOLY SPIRIT GROANS FOR US!

And **he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit**, because **the Spirit intercedes for the saints** in accordance with God's will. (Rom. 8:27)

The word 'searcher' comes from a root which suggests someone lighting a torch and going slowly round a large, dark room full of all sorts of things, looking for something in particular. Or perhaps he is searching in the dark, by listening. What is he wanting to find, and what happens when he finds it?

No doubt God, in searching the dark spaces of our hearts, comes across all sorts of things which we would just as soon remained hidden. But the thing he is wanting to find above all else, and which according to Paul he ought to find in all Christians, is the sound of the **spirit's** groaning. (N.T. Wright)