

"The Doctrine of Glorification"

Romans 8:14-8:39

Part 5

Introduction: The last time we were together we were looking at how the creation is groaning and travailing in pain as it awaits the manifestation of the sons of God.

Notice Romans 8:18

In this verse Paul is looking forward to the believer's future glorification. This glorification will be so great that Paul tells us the present sufferings are not worthy to be compared with the glory that will be revealed in us. We talked about how this glory is already in us, but it is veiled by our bodies of flesh. The glory here which Paul speaks of is Christ in us and the character of God within us. Right now, we have the Holy Spirit Who lives the life of Jesus through us, but our flesh gets in the way and so the full manifestation of God in us is not yet seen.

1 Corinthians 15:49

⁴⁹ *And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.*

1 John 3:2

² *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

Notice Romans 8:19-22

The entire creation is groaning as it awaits the day of the manifestation of the sons of God because when that day arrives the creation will be freed from the curse which came upon creation when Adam sinned in the Garden. This will happen when Jesus returns to earth at the end of the Tribulation. We will return with Him and when He returns, He will establish His Kingdom where He will rule and reign for 1000 years. When Jesus returns, we, who are the sons of God, will be made manifest to the world and when Jesus sets up His Kingdom the curse will be lifted from creation.

Creation is not groaning alone.

Notice Romans 8:23

Not only does creation groan and travail in pain but we who are believers also groan waiting for the completed adoption and redemption of our bodies. This is not only a reference to the groaning you do when you try to get out of bed in the morning. This is a reference to the groaning we do because we still live in these bodies of flesh and we still give into sin. Let me show you a quote which I shared with you the last time from an unknown writer;

"The groanings bewail a condition that is painful, unsatisfying, and sorrowful and are a cry for deliverance from a torturing experience. The pain we feel now because we still live in bodies that harbor the flesh (the old sin nature) which causes us to we still stumble and grieve the Holy Spirit. In this passage, the deep distress is related primarily to our remaining sinfulness. This is especially painful to those who know that they have been shown great mercy and have manifold grace to live victoriously for His glory."

Notice Romans 8:23 again.

I want to focus upon what it means that we have the first fruits of the Spirit. In the days of the Old and New Testaments the first fruits were the very first part of the harvest that was gathered. They were the evidence that there was a greater harvest to come. Because we have the "first fruits of the Spirit" we can be sure that there is something greater that is to come. That something greater is our final glorification. The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our final glorification.

Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³ *In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,*

¹⁴ **Which is the earnest of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

The word "earnest" refers to "a down payment". The Holy Spirit is the FIRST FRUITS/GUARANTEE/DOWN PAYMENT of our final glorification. God placed a down payment upon us as assurance that He will complete what He has started.

Philippians 1:6

⁶ *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

Let me show you a picture from the Old Testament.

Genesis 24:1-4

And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.

² And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh:

³ And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell:

⁴ But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

Abraham is a picture of God the Father, Isaac is a picture of Jesus Christ His Son, and the servant is a picture of the Holy Spirit. The bride for Isaac is a picture of the church.

He is sent back to Abraham's country to choose a bride for Isaac.

Genesis 24:10,15,19-22

¹⁰ And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

¹⁵ And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

¹⁹ And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking.

²⁰ And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.

²¹ And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.

²² And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold;

Here we see that as Abraham's servant came to the well Rebekah came to draw water. When God answered his prayer, he gave to her a golden earring and two bracelets of God.

Genesis 24:28-31

²⁸ And the damsel ran, and told them of her mother's house these things.

²⁹ And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban: and Laban ran out unto the man, unto the well.

³⁰ And it came to pass, when he saw the earring and bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, Thus spake the man unto me; that he came unto the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the well.

³¹ And he said, Come in, thou blessed of the LORD; wherefore standest thou without? for I have prepared the house, and room for the camels.

When Laban saw the earring and the bracelets, he knew they were only a small part of greater riches which existed. This is the very idea of we believers being given the FIRST FRUITS of the Spirit. He is the down payment and there are great riches that are yet to come.

Ephesians 1:3

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

I. The Explanation of Glorification

Part 5

Romans 8:14-27

Notice Romans 8:24

Now, because we have this guarantee of the first fruits of the Spirit we are saved in hope. This means that as believers we have an eternal hope. Notice the words of Winslow:

"We are saved by hope." The phrase, as employed by the Apostle, does not imply the instrument by which we are saved, but the condition in which we are saved. The condition of the renewed creature is one of hope."

The glorification that awaits us is our HOPE as we live in this world of darkness. The Bible has much to say concerning our eternal HOPE.

- 1. Our Hope will never leave us ashamed/disappointed.**

Romans 5:5

⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

2. Our Hope brings forth fruit.

Colossians 1:5-6

⁵ For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

⁶ Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

3. Our Hope lifts us from the depths of sorrow.

1 Thessalonians 4:13

¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

4. Our Hope is the anchor of our soul.

Hebrews 6:17-19

¹⁷ Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath:

¹⁸ That by two immutable things [the PROMISE and the OATH], in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

¹⁹ Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

5. Our Hope is a living Hope because Jesus Christ is alive.

1 Peter 1:3

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

6. Our Hope is to be manifest in the way we live our lives.

1 Peter 3:15

¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

1 John 3:1-3

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

² *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

³ **And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.**

Notice Romans 8:24-25

Our future glory is our HOPE because we have not yet seen it with our physical eyes. When that day comes it will no longer be our HOPE for in that day, we shall see with our eyes what we have waited for. We will then possess what God has promised.

1 John 3:2

² *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and **it doth not yet appear what we shall be**: but we know that, when he shall appear, **we shall be like him**; for we shall see him as he is.*

Notice Romans 8:25 again.

I want to focus upon the word "patience" for a moment. The word means "patient enduring/perseverance". We are to keep our focus upon our Eternal Hope, and we are to persevere through the sufferings of this life as we wait upon our final glorification. We can see an example of what this patience looks like in the book of James.

James 5:1-10

Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

² *Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.*

³ *Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.*

⁴ *Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.*

⁵ *Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.*

⁶ *Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.*

⁷ Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

⁸ Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

⁹ Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

¹⁰ Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

Conclusion:

I will end with a quote by John Bunyan:

"Hope has a thick skin and will endure many a blow; it will put on patience as a vestment, it will wade through a sea of blood, it will endure all things if it be of the right kind, for the joy that is set before it. Hence patience is called "patience of hope," because it is hope that makes the soul exercise patience and long-suffering under the cross, until the time comes to enjoy the crown."