

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

4.25.2021

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of Gods word.

Anticipating Redemption

## Romans 8: 18 – 27

As Christians, even though our eternal future will be glorified with God, our current state of being, is one of longing for that day to come. So, for now, we will experience sufferings through the realities of the trials and tribulations of this life, and we will also suffer due to the consequences of the sinfulness in which we commit. Therefore, because of this, we might not always, patiently and with eagerness, wait for the hope of our salvation in Christ Jesus. Our hope is based upon Gods promise, which we have already received the first fruits of, the indwelling Holy Spirit that was given unto us through salvation. The remainder of this promise, which is our eternal life and glorification in God we are still waiting for and it will be fulfilled at the time that the Lord returns for us. Therefore, we must allow the word of God to encourage us, to live separated from the world, while we patiently wait for our hope of eternal life.

**Romans 8: 18,....**for I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us....

If the life that we were born into was the only life offered to humanity, we then would remain dead in our trespasses and sins, eternally separated from God, without any future hope. But, because of God's mercy and grace, and through the truth of the gospel of his Son, Jesus Christ, the mere mentioning of living a life separated from God is not even worthy of consideration in light of the reality of the redemptive saving grace of Christ, and what he has done for us through the cross and the resurrection. This means that all who are in Christ, are heirs of Gods kingdom. Only those who are in Christ look forward to sharing in the glory of his kingdom. Without Christ, we would never be able to participate in God's glory because of our sinfulness.

**2 Corinthians 11: 30 – 31,....**if I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not....

If we boast in Christ then we are boasting in our weaknesses, because by describing our weaknesses, we will then show the strength of almighty God through ourselves. Suffering is one of the ways we as believers identify with Christ, and this is how we grow and mature in the Lord.

**Romans 8: 19 – 22,....**for the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly....because the creation itself shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption....for we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now....

Creation here refers to all that God hath made. All of creation, and all of us are awaiting the moment when everything will finally be made right. This natural, created world, in which we live, testifies of the evidence of God. Sadly, creation knows, what people do not. Like ourselves, creation is God's handiwork, so, just as creation longs for the same things that God desires, so should we. Through Christ and the cross, all things were reconciled. Sinfulness polluted creation, but Christ came to destroy the works of the devil and the effects of sin, and he came to completely undo everything that Satan done through temptation.

**Psalms 148: 1 – 14,....**praise the Lord....let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created, and he established them forever and ever, he issued a decree that will never pass away....let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted, his splendor is above the earth and the heavens....

When we carelessly, needlessly, and sinfully destroy something that has been designed to bring glory to God, we must remember that we are not the only ones that worship the creator, so we are destroying other peoples means of worshipping God. Caring for Gods creation is a genuine, active way of worshipping our creator.

Creation one day will be freed from bondage and corruption and will be returned to the state that it was in when it was first created, before sin entered into the world. But, in this present moment we are not there yet, so creation groans, and mankind experiences suffering in this life. So, all humanity waits for the suffering to end, when everything will be made right. This comes through God, who by his mercy and grace, put together a plan of redemption, and by faith in his Son, Christ, we eagerly wait for the curse to be lifted. Until that time appears, it is our responsible service to present our bodies a living sacrifice, unto God.

**Romans 12: 1,....**I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service....

**Romans 8: 23 – 25**,....ourselves....which have the first fruits of the spirit....groan....waiting for the adoption....the redemption of our body....for we are saved by hope....but if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it....

The day is approaching when the earth will be filled with the glory of God. God has set an appointed time when the curse will be lifted, and we who are redeemed will be given our new bodies, our glorified bodies, heavenly and eternal. It will be at Gods appointed time that the body of Christ, along with creation will be glorified and perfected. We are not glorified yet, our hope is certain, but has not yet materialized. It is hope that brought us to faith in Christ, we cannot see it, if we could then it would not be hope. Our life as Christians is a life of faith, hope and anticipation. Our hope is based upon Christ and the cross, which is a promise from God. The truth of the word of God encourages us to remain hopeful, keeping in mind our eternal perspective, knowing that remaining in this world is commissioned unto us by Christ himself, making salvation beneficial to all of those around us.

**Philippians 1: 20 – 21**,....according to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain....

**Romans 8: 26**,....likewise the spirit also helpeth our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for....but the spirit itself maketh intercession for us....

God gives unto us his own spirit, which is the Holy Spirit, given unto us when we come to faith in Christ. He gives this unto us as a down payment on the future glory of God, which we are longing for. The Holy Spirit helps us with our weaknesses. These weaknesses will cause such confusion in our spiritual characteristics that we will not know what to pray for. The Holy Spirit creates the connection between ourselves and God, and provides the content for our communication. The Holy Spirit knows the thoughts of our hearts, and longs to lead and guide us into all truth. He intercedes for us, making known unto us the deepest desires of our hearts, interceding for us with unspoken words of perfection to the throne of God.

**Ephesians 1: 13 – 14**,....ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory....

**Romans 8: 27**,....he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God....

Every good thing that we will ever need is personally guaranteed by God. So in what we feel are overwhelming sufferings in this life that we live, we are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus and therefore nothing can separate us from the love of God. Even though we do not know where we are going or what we should pray for, the Holy Spirit is continually searching our hearts to discern for us whether we are devoted to the Lord in righteousness, or to ourselves in sinfulness. He pours out his grace upon our faith, so that when we find ourselves not knowing the way, through the Holy Spirit we can continue to walk according to the desires of Gods will in our life. Anticipating our redemption means that our redemption should not only be seen as the salvation of the soul, but also as the redemption of the body.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

*Tim Hughes*

304.376.3177 – Text or talk.

[Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com](mailto:Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com)

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>









