

The Hope of Suffering Pt 2
Romans 8.20-25
7.5.26

²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³And 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. ²⁴For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

- The Law of _____: life in this fallen world is deceptively empty and misleading
- The Law of _____: stuff breaks down
- All of creation will be _____
- Labor pains lead to _____
- Our real hope produces _____ as well as _____
- The things that show/remind us how weak we are remind us of how much we _____ the Lord

Four Things That Inhibit Eager Waiting & Groaning

- Not enough _____
- Not enough _____
- Not enough _____
- Too much of _____

Further reflection/discussion

What do you like about this passage?

What questions do you have?

What do we learn about people? God's heart?

What is something you need to ask/trust the Lord to help you to apply based on this passage?

-----**(Specific questions)**-----

What are some ways you have experienced suffering in your life?

Are there any ways you have experienced suffering for your faith?

If so, how might the Lord have used that to show your faith? And how might the Lord have used that suffering to strengthen your faith?

What do you do (or could you do) to help remind yourself that suffering is temporary?

What might be one or two ways you have experienced the Law of Futility?

What might be one or two ways you have experienced the Law of Corruption?

Next time: "The Hope of Suffering, the Hope of Glory"