

- 2) We can never exit the family of God, but we can lose a sense of belonging. Insecurity is debilitating and it is not God's will for any believer's life. Even though Jesus _____ all the disciples equally, we should have the attitude of the apostle John who described himself as *the disciple whom Jesus loved*. John 13:23, 20:2, 21:20
- c. Romans 8:17a – *If children, heirs also...* Your _____ with Christ guarantees an inheritance.
 - 1) Not only are all believers God's children regardless of whether or not they are carnal or mature; we are also all legal _____. Ephesians 1:11
 - 2) Your inheritance is not to be confused with rewards, positions or crowns, because those are all _____ and not guaranteed.
- d. Romans 8:17b – *Heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ...* As legally adopted sons and daughters, we are _____ heirs with Christ. All He has inherited we have co-inherited with Him. This blessing is 100% undeserved, but it is guaranteed due to our union with Christ. Ephesians 2:4-7, Colossians 1:12
- e. Romans 8:17c – *If indeed we _____ with him in order that we may be glorified with him.* Since being a child of God includes the honor of partaking in Christ's sufferings, Paul assured us we will likewise partake in His glory. 1 Peter 4:13
 - 1) Here Paul used a _____ common condition statement – *if indeed* (EIPER) – meaning “if so” or “since indeed.” We see this condition statement (EIPER) in Romans 3:30 where it is translated *since indeed*.
 - 2) This verse could be understood as, “Since indeed we suffer with Him, it stands to reason we will also share in His _____.”
 - 3) In other words, Paul was not inferring that only those believers who _____ will be glorified, rather he was assuring all believers that since they suffer with Christ, they will one day be glorified with Him, as we observe in the following verses. Romans 8:35-39
 - 4) The logic is that if you suffer with someone, it is reasonable to expect to _____ in their honors. Philippians 3:10, 1 Peter 2:21-23

X. Romans 8:18-39 – Glorification

A. Romans 8:18 – Waiting to be glorified

1. Romans 8:18a – *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time...* God wants you to have an _____ perspective regarding your present suffering.
2. Romans 8:18b – *...are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.* Paul weighed our present suffering against our glorious _____ and found they could not be compared. In the light of your present suffering, here are some facts to consider.
 - a. First of all, as a Christian, you are expected to _____. Suffering is part of God's plan for your life. 2 Timothy 3:10-12

- b. Secondly, since you will indeed suffer, you need to be reminded that your future _____ is immeasurably superior to your present suffering. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
- c. Thirdly, you will be glorified; that is a _____! Romans 8:30

B. Romans 8:19-27 – Groaning to be glorified

1. Romans 8:19-22 – _____ groans.
 - a. Romans 8:19 – *For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.* All nature is eagerly awaiting the _____ when the children of God will be revealed with their glorified bodies. Why? Revelation 19:7-9, 14
 - b. Romans 8:20 – *For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope.* Back in the Garden of Eden God cursed creation due to Adam's sin. Creation is waiting with anticipation for God to finally _____ the curse. Genesis 3:17-19, Isaiah 11:6-10
 - c. Romans 8:21a – *...that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption...* At the second coming, at the revealing of the _____ of God, when we return with Christ to set up His kingdom, the majority of the curse will have been removed. Isaiah 35:1-10
 - d. Romans 8:21b – *...into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.* God promises that nature will be set _____ from its slavery to corruption on the day God's children are revealed in all their glory. Matthew 22:2, Revelation 19:9
 - e. Romans 8:22 – *For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.* Every part of creation is suffering as though in labor _____, awaiting the birth of a new and perfect day. This will happen at the beginning of the millennial reign of Christ.
2. Romans 8:23-25 – _____ groan.
 - a. Romans 8:23a – *And not only this, but also, we ourselves... groan.* Much like creation, believers also _____ as we eagerly await the future redemption of our bodies.
 - b. Romans 8:23b – *...having the first fruits of the Spirit...* When you believed the gospel, you immediately received the Holy _____ as a guarantee of your future glorification. Ephesians 1:14
 - 1) However, having the Holy Spirit does not mean you will not _____. 2 Corinthians 5:1-5
 - 2) This is important to point out, as many people erroneously teach that Christians were never meant to suffer physically, mentally, materially or otherwise. This passage teaches the _____. Let this be an encouragement to you as you struggle in life.

- c. Romans 8:23c – *...even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.* Finally, in our glorification, when God changes our bodies, all groaning will _____. 1 Corinthians 15:50-54, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 1 John 3:1-2
 - d. Romans 8:24a – *For in _____ we have been saved...* We were saved when we believed in Christ, confident that His payment for our sins secured for us the hope of eternal life. This speaks of our **justification**. Titus 1:2
 - e. Romans 8:24b – *...but hope that is _____ is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?* This hope is still future. It is dependent on God who made the promise. This speaks of our coming **glorification**. Hebrews 11:6
 - f. Romans 8:25 – *But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.* This confident and certain hope of glorification makes us _____ for eternity, while keeping us energized in the present. This speaks of our **sanctification**. 1 Corinthians 15:58, 1 Thessalonians 1:3, Hebrews 11:13-16
3. Romans 8:26-27 – The Holy _____ groans.
- a. Romans 8:26a – *In the same way the Spirit also _____ our weakness...* The Holy Spirit helps us in our weaknesses not in our strengths. Besides, do we really have any strengths?
 - b. Romans 8:26b – *...for we do not know how to pray as we should.* This does not say that sometimes we do not _____ how to pray. This sweeping statement says we absolutely do not know how to pray as we should.
 - c. Romans 8:26c – *...but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.* The Holy Spirit _____ intercession for us.
 - 1) The Holy Spirit groans *for* us, not _____ us. He does the groaning; we don't. This is not a heavenly or angelic language we speak; it is something the Holy Spirit does for us.
 - 2) In fact, these *groanings* are too deep for human words. This is literally unutterable speech. These groanings do not come out of _____ mouths but are done for us by the Holy Spirit in the presence of God. Hebrews 4:16
 - d. Romans 8:27a – *...and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is...* God the _____ knows what the Holy Spirit has in mind for us and responds appropriately to the Holy Spirit's *groanings*. We might request something of God that is outside His will, but the Holy Spirit will never do so. 1 Corinthians 2:10-13
 - e. Romans 8:27b – *...because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.* The Holy Spirit will request of God the Father _____ that which is in accordance with His will.