

What relief!

Romans eight is a delight for all Christians, specially for those who suffer or are insecure and uncertain.

Verse 15 encourages us with these words:

We have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

We can be set free from bondages of all kinds regardless of our circumstances. We need fear nothing because we're children of our all-caring Papa God to whom we can turn in quiet trust and confidence in every situation.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Though we may suffer with Christ, we look forward to the glorious good that we will share with Him through all eternity.

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.

How foolish it is to complain at our sufferings when they serve but one purpose: to give us a more glorious future.

How much more foolish to seek to be relieved of our sufferings, in times of persecution even to turn our backs on the One who suffered so for us, just to try to escape our sufferings with Him.

. . . The creature itself shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

The whole of creation is waiting for the glorious freedom from suffering which will be our ultimate lot, and not freedom from suffering as we may think of it alone, but freedom from all sin and selfishness, ignorance and uncertainty, lack and need, worry and fear. Freedom at last from all that threatens and grieves!!

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Oh, glorious day. Let us look to it with anticipation when we waken in the morning, and when we go to sleep at night. When we suffer in any way, let it be our encouragement, relief, and joy!

But we have not only hope for the future, we have help right now.

. . . Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

The Spirit of God Himself pleads with the Father on our behalf in utmost concern. He knows our weaknesses, yes, and our sins, as well as our pain. And, because He pleads with God for us, we can be certain that

. . . All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

He allows nothing to touch us that has not first touched Him. We can be absolutely certain that everything that impacts us in any way is meant for our benefit eternally, no matter how painful it may be for the moment.

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son.

. . . Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

God chose us from before our birth, even before the foundation of the world. He chose us not only to be His children, He chose us, you and me, to be seen as righteous in His holy eyes, and to actually be made like Christ Jesus, our perfect Savior. He sees us now as we will be when ultimately glorified with Him.

If I wrote this, or you, if it weren't in the perfect, inspired Word of God, we'd both write it off as ridiculous nonsense.

But it is in the Word. It is true, no matter how impossible it seems.

In our place and position in Christ Jesus we are already seen not only as justified, but even as glorified in Him.

Now, if a perfectly holy God can see us so, who are we to be constantly condemning ourselves. Let us, too, see ourselves, not as we are in ourselves, but as we are in Him. And take heart.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Let it not be us. Let's not worry when it's others. They're unimportant.

Believe and trust God and His Word.

Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things.

In view of all this, is there anything that is for our eternal benefit that we cannot expect God to provide for us? What a limitless bank account is ours.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long: we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Yes, Paul knew what it was to live with daily threats to his life and physical well being, but in it all still to know God's very best for him.

In all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And, it is, after all, this that counts. God and His love are on our side. So that no matter what else seems to be against us, in reality nothing is against us, nor can be.

God . . . in His infinite, fatherly, caring love . . . is looking out for us, so that both in the spiritual and temporal spheres all is well as we look to Him, believe Him, trust Him.



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- Romans 8:37

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