

God's people should be greatly influenced by "hope."

This is why we "groan inwardly" for something much better.

This is why we can be confident and hopeful people!

This is why we are able to "wait for it patiently."

#### Romans 5:1-5

For the Christian who believes God, our future changes our present!

Our salvation is incomplete—so we "groan inwardly" (8:23)

Our salvation is glorious—so we "wait eagerly" (8:23)

Our salvation is certain—so we "wait patiently" (8:25)



# romans

## THE GOSPEL OF GOD

### Waiting Eagerly in Hope

Romans 8:22-25

In Romans 8, Paul unfolds great assurances for the children of God—even though we "suffer" and "groan."

Being justified by faith in Jesus Christ means:

- no condemnation  
because "*set...free from the law of sin and death*"
- new life "in the Spirit"  
free from the domination of "*flesh*"  
to be led by the Spirit
- new inheritance as "sons of God"  
adopted as children of God
- certainty of coming glory  
affirmed by perseverance in suffering  
suffering is confirmation we are "co-heirs with Christ"!  
part of a creation that waits "in hope"  
"*the creation*"—waits for coming "*glory*"  
"*the children of God*"—wait eagerly for coming "*glory*"

All of creation “groans” in anticipation of future glory.

<sup>22</sup> *We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.*

We have “*the firstfruits of the Spirit*” now.

Yet we “groan inwardly.”

And we “wait eagerly” for what we do not yet fully have: “*our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*”

Our salvation in Christ is “now and not yet.”

Just as God has given us bodies suitable for this earth, so God will give us new bodies suitable for a new earth

*“The body... is raised imperishable...  
is raised in glory...  
is raised in power...”  
is raised a spiritual body.”*

1 Corinthians 15:42-43

God’s people also “groan inwardly” in anticipation of future glory.

<sup>23</sup> *Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*

God has given us a salvation with a certain future experience of glory.

<sup>24</sup> *For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has?* <sup>25</sup> *But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.*

Question: “How do I ‘groan inwardly’?”