



# Epistle to The Romans



## Lesson 10, Romans 8 Part 2: The New Creation

### Romans 8

#### Verses

1-13 Our Deliverance from the flesh

14-17 Realization of our Son-ship. Not a son until “adopted”; only then able to inherit; once adopted you could never be disowned.

18-30 Why do Christians suffer? This question has been around since the dawn of man in one form or another; Why do bad things happen to good people? Some have suggested that this life is a Christian’s “Boot Camp” for Heaven.

*The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children (sons) 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. Romans 8:16-17*

*But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 1 Corinthians 2:9*

Romans 8: 17b-27 will contrast our present state with the coming glory...

#### **Read Romans 8 Verse 18**

Paul uses the word “Reckon” as he is counting up both the debits and credits on the ledger of life.

#### **Christian Suffering?**

Jesus suffered trials and he promised his apostles would suffer trials. Jesus also promised us trials (Jn 16:33). We need the Divine viewpoint in regard to trials. The trick in life is to have a balanced perspective on things. To remove blinders and see things the way they truly are.

Remember Job who certainly had his troubles. The book of Job never does answer the question why the innocent suffers. If you have read the book of Job, we, the readers, are treated to a conversation in the first chapter that Job was not a privy to which was the challenge between Satan and God about Job. Job knew nothing about it. He was just trying to live his life and get along.

What about Paul? You have all these tele-preachers on TV telling you that if you just have faith, you’ll have a Rolex watch or a Mercedes in the garage. Hmm....Paul didn’t know that. They teach that if you are sick you don’t have enough faith....really?! Tell that to Paul. Remember Paul’s “Thorn in the flesh.” How did Paul measure “Success”: **2 Cor 4:7-18; 11:21-28**. And we will be “joint-participants” in His glory! (Who can fathom what this really means...)

### **Read Romans 8 Verse 19**

“Creature” (KJV) should be “creation” or anything created or the sum of things created. The interrelationship of man with the physical creation of which he is a part was established in God’s sentence of judgment on Adam after the Fall. In Genesis chapter 3 there is a curse pronounced upon the creation because of Adam’s sin.

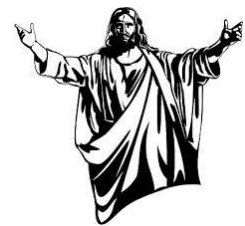
“Sons of God” is a term referring to the direct creation of God Himself (Cf. Gen 6; Jn 1:12; et al.).

### **Read Genesis 3:14-19**

Why are we reading this? We are under the curse. The whole of creation is involved in this curse and is waiting future redemption. That is the point that Paul is going to address.

#### **Under the Curse**

Again, the creation is also involved in the curse. This is a future aspect of redemption. The Creation keeps on “eagerly awaiting” (Rom 8:19); the verb for “eagerly awaits” is used 7X in NT, each time refers to Christ’s return (Rom 8:23, 25; 1 Cor 1:7; Gal 5:5; Phil 3:20; Heb 9:28).



#### **After the Curse**

The revealing of the sons of God will occur when Christ returns for His own. We will share His glory (Rom 8:18; Col 1:27; 3:4; Heb 2:10) and will be transformed (Rom 8:23). All of nature (inanimate and animate) is personified as waiting eagerly for that time.

### **Read Romans 8 Verse 20**

“Vanity” here meaning futility, frailty, purposelessness, failure, decay, perishable (Eph 4:17; 2 Pet 2:18). Vanity describes the change and decay that pervades all created things (Rom 8:21). God judged the totality of His Creation along with people for their sin (Gen. 3:14, 17- 19); yet, the curse was instituted with a future hope (Rom 8:24) and that is what Paul is calling attention to.

### **Read Romans 8 Verse 21**

“Bondage of Corruption” means “Bondage of decay” which is the 2nd law of thermodynamics, the law of entropy, which shows up in most fields of science. All of creation is winding down, decaying. Nowhere is it winding up. The question is, who wound it up in the first place?

“...shall be delivered from...” It will begin with the removal of nature’s curse: Isa 11:1-13; 65:17-25; Micah 4:1-5; Zeph 3:14-20; Zech 14:1- 21, etc. Can a lion lie down with lamb today?...Only if the lamb is inside the lion! For a thousand years there will be people living on the earth without the curse!



## Entropy Laws

- 1st Law: Conservation of Matter/Energy: You can't create or destroy either one. You can't win.
- 2nd Law: Entropy—The Bondage of Decay: No engine reaches 100% efficiency. There is always a loss. You can't even break even.
- 3rd Law: Everything has positive finite entropy: You can't get out of the game.

## Randomness (Entropy)

The Second Law of Thermodynamics, also called the “Arrow of Time,” asserts that as time advances, the universe progresses from a state of order to a state of greater disorder (entropy). This also declares that the energy available to do work continually decreases. The universe appears to run “downhill,” to an eventual heat death when no temperature differences exist, no energy is available, in uniform randomness. Cf Romans 8:21.



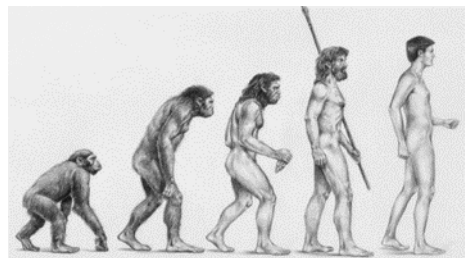
All information that is useful is ordered: Alphabet, words, language, etc. This contrasts with “noise,” which is randomness. For instance, if you are a communication engineer you have to deal with signal to noise ratios. Signal is what you want, and noise gets in the way and interferes with communication. The ratio of signal to noise is how good your particular thing is.

There is always an inherent flow towards entropy. It takes energy and commitment to bring order out of disorder. The front hall closet, or your locker at school, your desk at home or work. If you leave it alone it has a tendency to move towards disorder. Only until you spend the time and energy to straighten it up will it be corrected. Then the process starts all over again.

In today's world we clearly see chaos or confusion, as opposed to order. Things are moving from order to randomness. Total randomness is devoid of design. Our world is moving away from the designer who created with order, to a state ruled by disorder, or complete randomness. No design evident.

Years ago, no one could imagine a day where it would be illegal to teach our kids in school that things were created by an intelligent designer; that nature itself was created by a skillful designer. We are now in a culture where our teachers, scientists, attorneys, etc... are in total ignorance of the role of intelligent design.

Only biology and anthropology attempt to ignore entropy. The entire Theory of Evolution (Biogenesis) is a direct violation of the entropy laws. (We're not dealing with adaptation, sometimes referred to as “microevolution” or evolution with a small “e.”)



Watch the July 22, 2019 video: Mathematical Challenges to Darwin's Theory of Evolution with Berlinski, Meyer, and Gelernter by the Hoover Institution on YouTube.

Since God's program of salvation for people is one of a new Creation (2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15), the physical world also will be re-created (Rev 21:5).

### **Groan #1 (of 3)**

Groan means an intense longing, emotional pain... the entire creation is presently "suffering"!

#### **Read Romans 8 Verse 22**

Deliverance of creation will take place in two stages. Stage ①: The renovation of the present cosmos in conjunction with the return to earth of the Lord Jesus and the establishment of the messianic kingdom on earth (Isa 11:5-9; 35:1-2, 5-7; 65:20, 25; Amos 9:13). Stage ②: The creation of "a new heaven and a new earth" (Rev 21:1; cf. 2 Pet 3:7-13).

### **Groan #2**

#### **Read Romans 8 Verse 23**

Believers are described as the ones having "the firstfruits of the Spirit." The Greek helps us understand that the Holy Spirit is "the firstfruits" of God's work of salvation and recreation in believers. Elsewhere the Holy Spirit is called "a deposit (down payment or earnest) guaranteeing our inheritance" (Eph 1:14; cf. 2 Cor 1:22), a similar idea.

The word "groan" is in the present tense which means "keep on groaning." In one sense each believer has already received the adoption because he has "received the Spirit of sonship" (Roman "adoption," Rom 8:15, Prodigal Son story) and is a son of God (Gal 4:6-7).

At the same time, as Romans 8:23 states, believers still anticipate their adoption in its completeness, which is said to be "the redemption" the Greek word describes a release or deliverance achieved by a ransom payment.

This is called the revelation of the sons of God (Rom 8:19) and "the glorious freedom of the children of God" (v. 21). It will occur at the Rapture of the church when believers will be raised and transformed with glorious bodies (1 Cor 15:42-54; 2 Cor 5:1-5; Phil 3:20-21; 1 Thess 4:13-18). Paul called that day "the day of redemption" (Eph 4:30).

#### **Read Romans 8 Verse 24**

"Being Saved"?

Three tenses of "Being Saved":

- ✚ Past - Have been saved: Eph 2:8, 9
  - Positional, called justification, eternal
  - Passport Stamped. Get out of Hell Free Card. Saved from the penalty of sin.
- ✚ Present - Are being saved: Rom 6
  - Operationally, by the Holy Spirit, moment-by-moment
  - From the power of sin;
  - Called sanctification, a process
- ✚ Future - Shall be saved:



- from the presence of sin
- Here called “the redemption of our body.” Rom 8:23

It is important to distinguish between justification and sanctification: confusion over these terms has caused centuries of misunderstanding...

### ***Read Romans 8 Verse 25***

The word “Hope” in Greek is stronger than “know” it means “to trust in.” It is a confidence, sureness, of future things. (The opposite of our use of the term in English.)

“eagerly await”: He who has the strongest “hope” will have the greatest stability under stress (2 Cor 4:16-18). This Greek word is used 7X in the NT...always in regards to the return of Christ!

### **The Most Important “Groan” of All, #3**

#### ***Read Romans 8 Verse 26***

The Holy Spirit “Helpeth” is in the present tense meaning He “keeps on helping.” He even is our “linebacker” on prayer!

These are not uttered words being talked about by Paul. Although I have nothing against the ‘Gift of Tongues’ however this passage probably has nothing to do with praying in tongues, as some suggest. How do we know? “*with groanings which cannot be uttered.*” The groaning is done by the Holy Spirit, not believers, and apparently is not stated in words or uttered.

#### ***Read Romans 8 Verse 27***

Even though the Spirit’s words are not expressed, the Father knows what the Spirit is thinking. This is an interesting statement about the Father’s omniscience and the intimacy within the Trinity. The Lord Jesus also continually intercedes for believers in God’s presence (v. 34; Heb 7:25).

This entire session contrasts our present state (with trials) with the coming glory (Rom 8:17-28).

#### ***Read Romans 8 Verse 28***

Romans 8:28 is a verse everyone should have marked and memorized. Which are the three most important words? The first three: “And we know.” We know that ALL things work together.

“The called,” can open a pandora’s box of confusion. Who are the called? Can we be certain? Etc...

#### ***Read Romans 8 Verse 29***

Spurgeon quipped: “God chose me before I was born. I’m glad He did; otherwise He might have changed His mind!” Uncertainty about election can arise from some kind of self-righteousness, but we will talk more about that in the next lesson.

#### ***Read Romans 8 Verse 30***

## Five Phases or Unbreakable Links

This eternal choice and foreknowledge involves more than establishing a relationship between God and believers: It involves the certainty of our sanctification! This has caused hundreds of years of theological wars trying to reconcile this.

Questions like, “what about the carnal Christian who falls away. Was he not saved in the first place?” “If a person doesn’t see it through to the end, is he saved or not?” The Calvinists have their answers the Arminians have their answers. There is actually a correct middle path that we will talk about.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① Foreknow → God’s Knowledge | • Abraham = “Father of the Faithful.”                                    |
| ② Predestinate → Abraham     | • In Isaac: “Thy seed shall be called.” (Gen 21:12; Heb 11:18; Rom 9:7). |
| ③ Called → Isaac             | • If God can justify Jacob, He can justify any of us!                    |
| ④ Justified → Jacob          | • Joseph: Glorified—over 100 ways a type of Christ!                      |
| ⑤ Glorified → Joseph         |                                                                          |

## Next Session

We will explore that questions of Fate vs. Free Will: If things are prophesied (predestined), do we really have any choice? Can a Christian lose his/her salvation? There are good scholars on both sides of this issues. We will deal with this head on. This will focus on two critical doctrines: Eternal Security and the Perseverance of the Saints. What happens to saints who don’t persevere? Re-read Romans 8:28-39: What seven questions does Paul pose the answer?

## Books of the Bible Word Scramble

<p>snaaltagi _____</p> <p>ojnha _____</p> <p>eudtermooyn _____</p> <p>rcahahezi _____</p>	<p>nbuesmr _____</p> <p>nsppailiiph _____</p> <p>seiephans _____</p> <p>oieplmnh _____</p>
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### Bible Trivia Questions

What is the language of the <u>biblical New Testament</u> ?	Greek	Hebrew		
Who was the first son of Abraham?	Isaac	Ishmael		
How many psalms does the Book of Psalms contain?	90	110	130	150
What was the first of the Plagues of Egypt?	Water into Blood	Darkness		