

Romans 8b

18 Put it in a balance scale, sufferings on one side and glory to be revealed in the other, ... hey it's not even worth it. It's like a grain of dust compared to a mountain, a drop of water to the sea... not worth comparing! Funny how some days we say, "oh the suffering" and others it is like "oh yeah, almost forgot" His grace is sufficient for whatever we go through and we will not be tempted beyond what He gives us grace to endure. For glory revealed in us see Isaiah 60 that mentions 4x we will be covered in the glory or splendor of God. I don't think our minds are able to grasp it. Matthew 5:11-12; 2Corinthians 4:17-18

19 Creation came under a curse when Adam fell. There are many references in Scripture about trees and rocks praising. I am not an animist, but obviously there is something we don't understand about creation unless it is just figurative speech. When creation saw Adam fall, it knew trouble was on the way. When it sees the seed of Adam glorified it will know that restoration is on the way. Isaiah 55:12,13; Acts 3:21

20 Creation was to meet man's needs and be a home for him. Creation research institute has some interesting speculation about Eden. Under the curse it could no longer do what it was designed to do. Just like us, when we cannot find the reason or work for which God designed us, our calling, we are frustrated, so also is creation. God subjected it - placed it under a curse - but there is the hope of the future. Genesis 3:17-19; Isaiah 24:5-6

21 Do you see what this is saying? I've never heard anyone preach on this! Bondage to decay is entropy. Everything goes from order to disorder. God is a God of order. We grow old and our bodies decay, damaged aging cells reproduce causing cancer, joints ache, the mind isn't as sharp, muscle tone gone. Nature too, under goes this deterioration. When we are liberated from this at Christ's second coming, nature will know that it too, will soon be liberated from the curse to return to the purpose for which it was created. Revelation 22:3

22 Creation - all of it - has been under an ordeal, not only the curse of decay and savagery, but humans pollute and destroy it. "All sounds of creation are in a minor key." (don't know the source of that quote) Mark 16:15

23 And we too, who taste the change to come by the fruits of the Spirit in our life, are going through this ordeal of living in a sin cursed world. Imagine, the firstfruits of the Spirit are just a deposit, yet just a taste of what is to come! Life here under these conditions is tough. We groan inwardly as we see sin destroy loved ones, our bodies age and decay, our sinful nature rise up and try to take back the throne in our hearts and minds. We groan inwardly. Yet, we wait

eagerly for the adoption to be finalized. Our bodies get redeemed. Like changing a crushed aluminum can for a shiny nickel, no - that is too weak but there is that word redeem, redemption value. These bodies will be cashed in for ones like His! 2 Corinthians 5:2-4

24 The hope is that He will indeed finalize the adoption and redeem our bodies. It is when He displays Himself to the world, along with us, His body, in the glorious *parusia* – revelation of Christ in His glory. Titus 2:11-13

25 This is our hope, the coming redemption of these bodies. We can endure as we groan inwardly because we believe what we can't yet see, redemption is coming. So we wait patiently hoping for that glorious day to be soon! Hebrews 6:12,15

26 In this weak condition we have an assistant that helps us pray. Some think this verse refers to praying in tongues, but I don't think so, as it says 'cannot express'. Tongues expresses it in a spiritual language. This verse is referring to the groans of the Spirit. The Spirit intercedes for us! Jesus intercedes before the Father for the salvation He purchased. The Spirit intercedes in our struggle with this life.

27 The wonderful thing about this intercession of the Spirit is that it knows our heart cry, the mind of the Spirit, and God's will. He can pray with all these factors in view exactly, what we need. Psalm 66:18-19; Jeremiah 29:12-13