

God's Pathway to Enduring Suffering

Romans 8:18-39

Notice the Development of the thought from Romans 6:1-8:39:

Romans 5 – God portrays salvation being worked out in & through the Person of Christ – 5:12-21

Romans 6 – God tells us of our responsibility in light of His salvific/salvation work in our behalf – 6:1-23

Romans 7 – God shows the frustration of attempting to accomplish sanctification on our own – 7:1-25
(a minimum of 25 uses of “I” & 1 reference to the Holy Spirit)

Romans 8 – God states that Sanctification comes through the work of the Triune God – 8:1-39

(In 8:1-17, God the Father: at least 14x; God the Son: at least 8x; God the Holy Spirit: at least 13x)

1A. Anticipation of the Hope of Glory Enables Us to Endure Suffering – 8:18-25

1B. Present Suffering Cannot Compare to Future Glory – 8:18

Our Hope is So Great

2B. Present Suffering Is a Pathway to Future Glory – 8:19-22

Our Hope is So Great – Creation longs for it

3B. Present Suffering Is Seen in Light of Future Glory – 8:23-25

Our Hope is So Great – We long for it

2A. Assistance of the Holy Spirit Enables Us to Endure Suffering – 8:26-27

In Romans 8, the focus is on the outworking of the Triune God in our lives. But there is a clear emphasis on the Holy Spirit. There are more references per verse than any other chapter in the NT. Notice:

- [1] the Assurance of Success & Victory through the Holy Spirit – 8:1-11
 - ❖ *“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.”* (8:2)
- [2] the Assurance of Sonship through the Holy Spirit – 8:12-17
 - ❖ *“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirits that we are children of God”* (8:16)
- [3] the Assurance of Suffering leading to Glory through the Holy Spirit – 8:18-25
 - ❖ *“sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory to be revealed”* (8:18)
- [4] the Assurance of Supplication & Intercession through the Holy Spirit – 8:26-27
 - ❖ He – the Holy Spirit – assists us/helps us as “He makes intercession/supplications/prayers for us”

3A. Assurance of God's Sovereign Purpose Being Worked Out Enables Us to Endure Suffering – 8:28-30

1B. What is the Nature of our Assurance? – “All things work together for good”

2B. Who are the ones who have this Assurance?

1C. “Those who love Him” – 8:28b

2C. “Those who are called according to His purpose” – 8:28c

3B. What is the Basis/Foundation for this Assurance?

1C. He Foreknew Us – *“whom He foreknew, He also predestined”*

2C. He Predestined Us – *“He predestined (us) to be conformed to the image of His Son”*

3C. He Called Us – *“whom He predestined, these He also called”*

4C. He Justified Us – *“whom He called, these He also justified”*

5C. He Glorified Us – *“whom he justified, these He also glorified”*

4A. Affirmation of God's Enduring Love Enables Us to Endure Suffering – 8:31-39

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