

**INTRODUCTION - ROMANS 8:18-39**

We have reached the peak of Christian doctrine and gaze upon the glorious end of our journey. This breathtaking view provides the energy that the weary travelers need to continue. We accept life and living in this world, because we hope for the world to come.

**Keep up:** complete N.T. Wright, *Romans: 18 Studies for Individuals and Groups*, p. 50-54..

***Future glory can keep us through present predicaments***

**Romans 8:18-25 → Endure groanings now for eternal glory later.**

There is an inescapable connection between creation’s groaning and humanity’s suffering. Still, despite this connection, both will experience the glory that awaits the children of God.

- Consider that the reality of suffering does not compare to the weight of coming glory.
- Consider that though creation groans now, it will be freed when glory comes.
- Consider that the end/aim of our hope will offset the pains of perseverance.

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**Romans 8:26-30 → Deal with deficiencies now to experience glory later.**

The key to experiencing glory later is to learn how to deal with deficiencies now. The good news is that God makes it possible for us to live despite our deficiencies.

- The Holy Spirit speaks for us when our words fall short.
- The Holy Spirit speaks for us when our desires are amiss.
- God’s plan has been established.
- God’s plan will see us through.

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**Romans 8:31-39 → Come to terms with life now to enjoy glory later.**

One of the beautiful literary and theological aspects of this portion of the letter is the range of doctrinal issues addressed in such a short space. With these issues highlighted, believers are led to conclude that of all that life may present to the contrary, God intends for believers to experience the glory of His love.

<u>The issue</u>	<u>The question</u>	<u>The answer</u>	<u>Summarizes</u>
1. Justification	1. 8:31-32	1. 8:33	1. 5:1-5
2. Regeneration	2. 8:34	2. 8:34	2. 5:6 - 6:11
3. Glorification	3. 8:35-36	3. 8:37	3. 6:12 - 8:30
		4. 8:38-39	4. 5:1 - 8:30

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