

GROANING FOR HOPE

ROMANS 8:18-24 | ERIC SIMPSON | APRIL 12, 2020

Romans 8:18-22

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

- **This life comes with an ache of incompleteness.**

Current is not eternal.

“In this life, all of our symphonies remain unfinished.” – Karl Rahner

- **The core issue is not external, but internal (human condition).**

“If society is corrupt but not the individuals within it then where did the corruption originate and how is it propagated?”
– Dr. Jordan Peterson

Romans 7:18-19

18...For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.

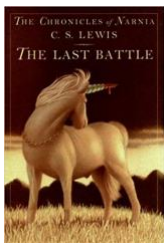
- **Hope is found in resurrection.**

Romans 8:23-24

23 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. 24 For in this hope we were saved...

Eternal is *resurrection* for all who say *yes* to Jesus.

“The resurrection of Jesus declared that Jesus was not the ordinary sort of political king, a rebel leader, that some had supposed. He was the leader of a far larger, more radical revolution than anyone had ever supposed. He was inaugurating a whole new world, a new creation, a new way of being human. He was forging a way into a new cosmos, a new era, a form of existence hinted at all along but never before unveiled. Here it is, he was saying. This is the new creation you’ve been waiting for. It is open for business. Come and join in.” – N.T. Wright



“...And for us this is the end of all the stories, and we can most truly say that they all lived happily ever after. But for them it was only the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world and all their adventures in Narnia had only been the cover and the title page: now at last they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story, which no one on earth has read; which goes on forever; in which every chapter is better than the one before.” – C.S. Lewis