

A Word from Our Preaching Pastor: Sunday, March 22, 2009

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us
Romans 8:18

There is a great encouragement in these words if you're prepared to hear it! There is hope and a firm anchor for your soul to hold you fast against the blowing storms of life. Notice three things as we prepare for worship this morning.

(1) This "present time" is marked by suffering. That's an unavoidable fact. And though the false teachers will try to deny it, they cannot change it. *"In this world you will have trouble."* Jesus said. So expect it. And when you have it, rejoice (1 Peter 4:12-19)! For things are going just the way he said they would.

(2) No matter how great the suffering may be, it cannot compare with the glory that is to be ours in Christ. Can you see that is what he's saying? ***"Yes there is suffering. You can't avoid that. But it cannot compare with the glory that is to be yours in Christ"*** In other words, take every pain you will ever suffering in this life, stack it up as high as it will go and then compare it to the glory you will enjoy for all eternity with Christ, and you'll find that there simply is no comparison. Sorrows melt away like ice cubes thrown into the heart of the sun when they come up against the glories that will be ours in Him forever!

(3) You will be strengthened to endure life's suffering as you make it your goal to glorify Him. Sorrow wins when we allow it to push the promise of His faithfulness out of our minds. But endurance grows in a heart that is determined to lay hold of Christ and His promises by faith day after day!

My hope, this morning, is to see this truth –that God faithfully carries us through our sorrows, not around them –seal your heart in a sovereign joy as you continue to take up your cross and follow Him!

Seeking Him for grace to stand each day,

Pastor Scott