

Sermon Series Title: “Resurrection Applied”

Sermon Series Summary: As we gear up for Easter Sunday, we’ll take four weeks looking at the power and beauty of the resurrection of Christ. The resurrection isn’t just for our past or future. The resurrection is here and now in and through us.

“We’re in our “Resurrection Applied” sermon series, and we’ll see that resurrection isn’t just for the past or future. It’s for the here and now, in and through us.”

Call: Psalm 103:6

Text: Romans 8:18-30

Title: “Resurrection Glory”

Next Week’s Call: Psalm 103:7

Next Week’s Text: Romans 8:31-39

Next Week’s Title: “Resurrection Hope”

Future Calls: Psalm 103:8, 9, 10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-18, 19, 20-22

Future Titles: “The Fruit of Kindness” (Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Samuel 18:1-9), “The Fruit of Goodness” (Galatians 5:22-23, Luke 18:18-30), “The Fruit of Faithfulness” (Galatians 5:22-23,), “The Fruit of Gentleness” (Galatians 5:22-23,), “The Fruit of Self-Control” (Galatians 5:22-23,)

Fallen Condition Focus: We go through hardship, but our hope is in our salvation in Christ.

Christ redeeming FCF: Christ has taken on our judgment for our evil, so our suffering is for our good. He took on the thorns and the toil, in order that we may be restored. He took on the ultimate groaning under wrath, so we may groan in hope. He was called as the ultimate Servant, so we may be called as His saved people. He was declared sinner, so we may be declared righteous. He was humiliated, so we may be glorified.

Central Truth: In our hardship, let us receive help from the Spirit and have hope in our Savior.

Summary: This may be one of the most glorious chapters in Scripture, and yet, it is not avoidant of suffering. Paul talks about our suffering and groaning along with creation, however, we have the help of the Spirit and the hope of our salvation and future glory.

Reflective Questions:

1. What are the ways we groan at the suffering in this world?
2. How does our future glory affect our view of present suffering?
3. What is our hope in the midst of hardship?

I. Introduction

- A. Hook
- B. Transition- Resurrection life, sonship, glory, hope, power here now
- C. Proposition
- D. Points

II. Our Hardship (vv. 18-22)

- A. Sufferings of the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is revealed.
 1. One of the gloriest chapters in Scripture is not void of suffering.
 2. Paul does not speak as one who has not experienced suffering (2 Cor 11- lashings, beatings, stoning, shipwrecked, persecution, betrayal, humiliation, death).
 3. Suffering/glory are tied together in Scripture- Job, Joseph, Jesus (John- hour of glory, John 17- glorify Your Son; pointing to the cross)
 - a) First time LOVE is mentioned in Scripture- context of the sacrifice of Isaac
 - b) Moses- encounters God
 - c) David- anointed then persecution
- B. We can compare a cup of water with the ocean, but our suffering is not worth comparing to the glory that will be revealed to and in us.
 1. Labor pain in hope of glory of children in v. 22; working out; working on marriage
 2. In heaven- not worth it?
- C. Creation is waiting with eager longing as well.
 1. Subjected to futility- vanity/meaninglessness/toil in Ecclesiastes
 2. Decay/brokenness/death affecting Creation (natural disasters, irresponsible stewardship, etc.)
 3. Because of sin
- D. Adam/Adamah- connection; part of image is dominion over the earth; broken image/broken dominion; Genesis 3- cursed is the ground because of us; thorns and thistles it will bring forth
- E. Creation is longing and hoping to be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

1. Suffering in this world is like pain for the body; not right
 - F. Whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.
- III. Our Help (vv. 23-27)
- A. God's children groan with God's creation.
 1. Groan at fallen hearts, bodies, world (abuse, injustice, disaster, etc.).
 2. Scripture gives room for and welcomes this groaning- part of our help.
 - a) Sometimes, we are grinning too much as Christians, when we should be groaning.
 - B. We wait eagerly for adoption as sons, redemption of our bodies.
 1. We already have the spirit of sonship in vv. 14-17.
 2. But that sonship will be completed with our bodies (image of God/creation reflected in body and soul).
 - C. We hope for what we do not see, and we wait with patience.
 1. Biblical hope is sure (in contrast with earthly hope).
 2. We wait eagerly (v. 23) and with patience (v. 25).
 3. We don't get impatient and demand God to work according to our timeline. We don't get jaded and stop waiting eagerly.
 - D. We are able to wait in this way, because we have the Spirit who is the firstfruit. It's a deposit, a foretaste of what's to come.
 1. Abraham's servant with Rebekah
 2. Peace, freedom, life, joy.
 - E. The Spirit helps us in our weakness.
 1. We don't know what to pray for and how to pray. Sometimes, we don't have the words to pray (facing death, loss of loved one, prison of depression/anxiety, sickness, marriage on the brink of divorce, children who have turned for the worst).
 - F. Spirit intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.
 1. Groanings- creation's/our groanings stem from imperfection; HS is perfect; so His groanings are taking on our groanings
 2. John Murray- Intercessor in Heaven (Jesus) and intercessor in our hearts (HS)
 - G. Spirit intercedes according to the will of God, which will be accomplished.
- IV. Our Hope (vv. 28-30)
- A. For those who love God- not universal but talking about God's people
 - B. All things- not just good things but all
 - C. Work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose
 1. Our good, God's kingdom and glory
 2. JI Packer- typewriter

- D. Foreknew- intimate knowledge; love
- E. Predestined to be conformed to the Son- our goal
- F. Order of Salvation (abbreviated)- Predestined, called, justified, glorified
 - 1. Predestination (Ordination/Election)
 - 2. Effectual calling (Universal v. effectual; Creation)
 - 3. Justification (Declared Righteous)
 - 4. Glorification (final state of glory)
- G. Order of salvation connected with person of salvation.
- H. Our hope in suffering is rooted in Christ. Our help through the Spirit is rooted in Christ.
- I. Christ has taken on our judgment for our evil, so our suffering is for our good. He took on the thorns and the toil, in order that we may be restored. He took on the ultimate groaning under wrath, so we may groan in hope. He was called as the ultimate Servant, so we may be called as His saved people. He was declared sinner, so we may be declared righteous. He was humiliated, so we may be glorified.
- J. Jonathan Evans- eulogy
- K. Jonathan Edwards' first sermon