

THE HOPE WE POSSESS - Romans 8:22-25

Lesson 8

A POWERFUL PICTURE

"All of our best days lie ahead of us, and one day all our painful days will lie behind us."

Tim Keller

A. What does the word "groan" mean?

1. **Universal** groaning
2. **Unique** groaning

B. Groaning that ends with incredible joy

1. Intense **groaning**
2. Intense **joy**

C. What are we waiting to "birth"?

1. Our **bodies**
 - a. Not just **resurrected**
 - b. But **redeemed** like Jesus
2. Our adoption as children of God
 - a. As Christians we are **already** adopted.
 - b. We will receive full **privileges** as **family** members.
3. Total freedom
 - a. What are **first** fruits?
 - b. What are the **first** fruits in our **lives**?

D. What does HOPE mean?

"In this creation, no experience is untainted by pain...but none of this is the last word."

Tim Keller

1. The **object** of our hope
2. The **attitude** of our hope
3. The **demeanor** of our hope
 - a. We wait with **eagerness**
 - b. We wait with **patience**.

"God will make the feeblest and filthiest of us into a god or goddess, a dazzling, radiant, immortal creature, pulsating all through with such energy and joy and wisdom and love as cannot now imagine...His own boundless power and delight and goodness."

C. S. Lewis