

# Creation's Hope

Romans 8: 18-22

## Introduction

1. Suffering and glory are bound up in Christ's redemptive work.
2. Suffering and glory tell the believer's story of redemption.
3. Suffering and glory describe the present age and the age to come.
4. Suffering and glory are compared by way of contrast in Romans 8:18-22.

## I. The future glory of believers surpasses all present suffering (v. 18).

- We long for glory because we live in the ruins of a lost world.
- What are the three areas of contrast between our present suffering and future glory?

## II. The future glory of believers has creation standing on its tiptoes to see what is coming (v. 19).

- What is the creation to which Paul is referring?

- What has happened to creation?
- What errors does the world make in its view of creation?

## III. The future glory of believers will be the occasion for the restoration of a ruined creation (vv. 20-22).

- Creation is now failing to meet its intended goal.
- Three terms that describe creation
- No theory of ecology is complete without a proper understanding of man's problem.
- The problem of man's mistreatment of nature is bound up in man's spiritual problem.

## How should we then live?