



## SUFFERING FOR THE GOOD

APRIL 29, 2024

**ROMANS 8:18 NKJV – (18)** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Paul's perspective is that our present sufferings are not even worth holding up in comparison with the glories that will be revealed in us. Some readers might be tempted to hear Paul glossing over the enormous pain, physical and emotional, that comes with human existence. He is not. Instead, Paul is elevating the much more enormous glory to come.

Paul understood pain very deeply. **2 Corinthians 11:23–29** contains a small sampling of his experiences: hunger, thirst, danger, imprisonment, torture, and persecution. And yet, he says all of that suffering cannot compare to the glories that will be revealed at some future time to saved believers as God's heirs with Christ. Truly, those endless glories must be incomprehensibly wonderful, satisfying, and meaningful.

Without Christ, we could never participate in God's glory because of our sin (**Romans 3:23**). In Christ, as God's fully adopted heirs, we will fully experience His glory forever (**Romans 6:23**). This verse does not minimize the pain we experience—it simply puts it into an eternal perspective.

**SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 4:17-18**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** To suffer and to endure is the lot of humanity.