

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 8:23-30

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Sunday, October 22, 2023

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“WE ARE ON OUR WAY”

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Adoption, Redemption, Justification, Sanctification, Children of God, Indwelling.

Romans 8:23-30

Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. 24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance. 26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Ecclesiastes 3:11b

He has made everything beautiful in its time.
Also He has put eternity in their hearts,

WE ARE ON OUR WAY

1.) The Heartbeat of Heaven

vs. 23

Romans 8:23

Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

1a.) Heaven's throne within us is proof

vs. 23a

**Not only that,
but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,**

firstfruit

grk: aparche

the beginning of a sacrifice, the first of what has been received, the first of what has been taken in, the best and most precious of that which you have gotten in value and worth.

Deuteronomy 26:10b-11a

“Then you shall set it before the LORD your God, and worship before the LORD your God. 11 So you shall rejoice in every good thing which the LORD your God has given to you and your house.

The Feast of Firstfruits – given by God to Moses, to pass down to the children of Israel, was a springtime celebration.

On the Hebrew calendar, it is to be celebrated on the 16th of Nisan which places it 2 days after the Feast of Unleavened Bread and 3 days after Passover which places it (see Leviticus 23)

Isaiah 66:1

Thus says the LORD: “Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest?”

“The First Fruits of the Spirit” is God’s Gift of Eternal Life

Which was planted, harvested and presented before God as an Offering – this offering was His first fruits just as Jesus Christ at His resurrection became the first fruits of our salvation.

One of the proofs of the Ministry work of Jesus Christ,

having been sacrificed and then resurrected from the dead - is that we possess within us, the first fruits of the Holy Spirit of God. This means that He has set His Spirit within us as a seal of redemption, or a guarantee of our salvation.

**Not only that,
but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,**

Testing: Am I reading from the Old Testament or The New Testament?

Joel 2:28-32

“And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. 30

“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. 32 And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

Acts 2:14,16

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel.

Truth is, you have a reservation - a confirmation number

(1) We have a brochure (2) We have the name of a contact who happens to be the owner of the event (3) We have a venue (4) It just so happens that He is Almighty God and His venue is called Heaven

James 1:18

Of His own will He brought us forth by the Word of truth, that we might be a kind of first-fruits of His creatures.

1 Corinthians 15:23

But each one in his own order: Christ the first-fruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

WE ARE ON OUR WAY THE HEARTBEAT OF HEAVEN

1b.) Heaven's appeal is a reality within us

vs. 23b

even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting

Why are we grieved over the condition of this world?

Why are you tempted to become fearful or burdened?

Is it not due to the fact that you know better? Is it not due to the fact that something is very wrong with our world? – this internal knowledge or sense of concern is because God has placed a witness inside of you

Groan

grk: sus'te'na'zo

to exhibit pain or to show evidence of pain, physical pain, emotional pain, non-physical pain – the world (the spirit realm) being out of sorts, disjointed, misaligned. skewed.

Eagerly

grk: apekdechomai

to experience expectation, the **urgency of waiting** as in having somewhere to go, to be in the “getting ready” mode, expecting that which has been long waited for.

Galatians 5:5

For we through the Holy Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Philippians 3:20

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 9:28

So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

WE ARE ON OUR WAY THE HEARTBEAT OF HEAVEN

1c.) Heaven's love is our constant contact

vs. 23c

for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Adoption

grk: huiotesia

full rights, completeness, the taking in of one by will, by choice, by the self-determination of another.

Redemption grk: apolutrosis;

to take out and away from, to release from a debt or ransom, a release effected by a payment or the ransoming of one by the other. to be released.

Romans 8:15

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

"We are children by birth, but sons by adoption. In the full sense, we have not yet received all of that adoption. It will all be consummated, at the Lord's return. When a Roman father publicly acknowledged his son and legal heir to all that he has, he would do so at the Forum. The ceremony was called "The Adoption." All those born into his family were called his children but only the one adopted was called his son. So we have been born again by the word of God and thus indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we are His adopted sons. This will be fully manifested in the most public way, when on that Day, we are changed into our Saviors' likeness at His coming for us – to claim us as His own."

Dr. Harry Ironside,

Moody Bible Institute Chicago Illinois June 30, 1927

Jesus painted for us a graphic image of just how much we are the sons and daughters of the Father by teaching us **The Theology of the Prodigal**.

As bad as the prodigal son was (stupidized by sin) he never ceased to be the Father's son – In fact what is implied is that the Father was interceding for His son – not aborting His son. A Roman Adoption was a legal, irreversible transaction that resulted in the ownership of all that the father possessed, including his honor, respect, and name.

Romans 9:4

These who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises;

Hebrews 2:10-11

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

The Words of The Shema and Its Three (3) Blessings

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

(Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!) You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Blessing 1: Creator / Blessing 2: Revelation / Blessing 3: God Alone The Eternal Redeemer

WE ARE ON OUR WAY

2.) The Hope of Heaven

vs. 24-25

2a.) Heaven's assurance is our hope

vs. 24

24 For we were saved in this hope,

Saved grk: sozo

to make safe or to bring safely to. to bring to a safe arrival, to secure safe passage, to rescue out of and in to

Hope

grk: elpis

a secured or assured expectation, a guaranteed anticipation.

Jeremiah 1:12 ESV

Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it."

Ezekiel 24:14 ESV

I am the LORD. I have spoken; it shall come to pass; I will do it. I will not go back; I will not spare; I will not relent; according to your ways and your deeds you will be judged, declares the Lord GOD.”

Numbers 23:19 ESV

God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Ezekiel 12:28 ESV

Therefore say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: None of my words will be delayed any longer, but the word that I speak will be performed, declares the Lord GOD.”

Matthew 5:17-18

“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

Do you see the continuity
between what God has said through His prophets and how God’s word
is fulfilled in Christ?

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

End of Study

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