

Romans # 119

“Legitimate Groaning” Part 3

Romans 8:19-25

Even with spiritual maturity, something inside us mourns as a result of the effects of sin in the world and even nature joins us in our deep-seated grief.

But God moves us through our suffering to our destiny of glory in being conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

In His gift of undeserved suffering, God gives us hope to handle our difficulties with confident expectation of His promised future reality.

If you're a believer in Jesus Christ trying to follow Him by applying His truth in this world, you're in for opposition, maybe even persecution.

When undeserved suffering comes to the mature believer, it's not designed to remove blessing but to add blessing to blessings.

The first-fruits of/from the Spirit are blessings imputed to the believer at the moment of spiritual maturity adjustment to God.

The judicial imputation of all personal sins to Jesus Christ on the cross plus the judicial imputation of divine righteousness at salvation, provide the basis for the real imputation of divine blessings at maturity.

If the justice of God provides the greater at salvation to the judicial imputation of divine righteousness, it follows *a fortiori*, that the justice of God will not withhold the lesser at maturity through the real imputation of divine blessings.

This means the first-fruits from the Spirit are not only the best thing in life but the only thing in eternity.

Strength in adversity is a blessing from God to the mature believer.

No matter how great or what the category of suffering, to the mature believer, it's a blessing designed to bring greater blessing to demonstrate the power of God as greater than the power of the ruler of this world.

One imputation gives us confidence for the next imputation, so just as the imputation of God's righteousness is hope for blessings in time, the resurrection body is hope for blessings in eternity; imputations are God's stepping stones to glory.

Hope is confident expectation of reality before the reality occurs and once the reality occurs, the expectation, hope or confidence is replaced by the reality.

The justice of God must condemn mankind before the justice of God can save mankind.

Two imputations combine to condemn us but the condemnation has its own hope and two judicial imputations; all human sins to Jesus Christ on the cross and divine

righteousness to us at salvation are the potential for blessing in time from the justice of God.

Salvation must precede blessings and all blessings must be imputed to divine righteousness since divine justice can only bless divine righteousness.

Potential plus capacity is the reality of blessings in time and two real imputations are necessary for blessing and reward in eternity from the justice of God: the imputation of eternal life plus the imputation of blessings in time to divine righteousness in us set up a third potential; blessing and reward in eternity.

Each imputation becomes the hope of the next imputation.

We're born condemned by the justice of God and potential salvation is the only hope for the human race.

Altogether, this equals the glory of God as God is ultimately glorified by the royal family at the judgment seat of Christ and that glory is result of three times when God provides blessings to mankind and this is the whole plan of God.