

20. What sufferings are you presently experiencing? What perspective do you have (should you have) in the midst of your pain?
21. Why is it so easy to be caught up and absorbed in the pains and pleasures of this world? How can we remind ourselves that this world is not our home (*Hebrews 11:13; 1 Peter 1:1; 2:11*)?
22. What are some practical ways to gain a clearer vision of the future glory promised to us so that it affects our daily walk?
23. How can we pray for each other this week?

#### Quotes to Ponder

*No matter what we have gone through, are presently going through, or will go through, the sum total is not worth comparing with the glory that awaits us. We can compare a thimble of water with the sea, but we cannot compare our sufferings with the coming glory.*

R. Kent Hughes

*When humans should have become as perfect in voluntary obedience as the inanimate creation is in its lifeless obedience, then they will put on its glory, or rather that greater glory of which Nature is only the first sketch.*

C.S. Lewis

*The unceasing activity of the Creator, whereby in overflowing bounty and goodwill, He upholds His creatures in ordered existence, guides and governs all events, circumstances, and free acts of angels and men, and directs everything to its appointed goal, for His own glory.*

J.I. Packer

*If you don't feel strong desires for the manifestation of the glory of God, it is not because you have drunk deeply and are satisfied. It is because you have nibbled so long at the table of the world. Your soul is stuffed with small things, and there is no room for the great.*

*The strength of patience hangs on our capacity to believe that God is up to something good for us in all our delays and detours.*

*I don't so much pray that my death will be without pain,  
but that it will be without doubt.*

John Piper



Message #53: Glory > Suffering

May 10, 2015

*Sermon*  
Notes

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? What called for more clarification?
2. Why should we be willing to suffer (*Romans 8:18*)?
3. Should we be shaken or cast down by suffering? Where is the balance between acknowledging despair and yet trusting in God (*2 Corinthians 1:8-10*)?
4. What do you focus on when you experience suffering? What should you focus on?
5. According to *Ephesians 1:13-14* what happened when you became a believer?
6. According to *Philippians 1:6* what can we be confident of?
7. What does Paul refer to when he speaks of creation in *Romans 8:19-22*?
8. How can creation remain so beautiful in spite of sin and its consequences?
9. What is creation longing for (*Romans 8:19*)? What does this mean?
10. Who subjected creation to futility (*Romans 8:20*)? Why?
11. What is creation's destiny inseparably linked to (*Romans 8:21*)?
12. What will creation be delivered from (*Romans 8:21*)? Who will bring about that deliverance?
13. What do these verses tell us about our glorification?  
*Matthew 13:43* — *Philippians 3:21* —  
*1 Corinthians 15:51-54* — *1 John 3:2* —
14. Why does Paul say we are *waiting eagerly for our adoption* (*Romans 8:23*) when he said in *Romans 8:15-16* that we are already adopted?
15. According to *Romans 8:24-25* what two things does our suffering teach us?
16. According to *Titus 1:2*, when did God promise believers eternal life? Will He ever revoke that promise?
17. What did God give us as a pledge of His promise (*Romans 8:23*; *2 Corinthians 1:22*; *5:5*)?
18. Read *2 Corinthians 4:18*. Are you living in hope or are you just focusing on your present circumstances?
19. What does *Colossians 1:27* tell us?