

**Glorious Freedom – Romans 8:18-25**  
*James Muldoon - Carey Baptist Church – 10 January 2010*

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Introduction

- What has Paul been talking about a lot since the start of Romans 8?
- What did Paul start to challenge Christians to do at **v12**?
- What theme does Paul introduce at **v17**, a theme which launches today's passage?
- Is it worth all that suffering?

i The Hypothesis

- What is Paul's hypothesis (argument) in **v18**?
- Why are Paul's words not glib?
- Which passage talks a lot about Paul's sufferings?
- Can our present sufferings be really bad?
- What does Paul say about our present sufferings in view of the glory which will be revealed to us?
- What must that mean about our future glory?

ii The Proof Part One

- What, in one sentence, is the first part of Paul's proof for what he has said in **v18**?
- In **v19**, Paul personifies creation. What is creation's current attitude?
- Why (in **v20**) is creation so keen?
- What does it mean that creation is subjected to frustration?
- Who subjected it to frustration?
- What, according to **v21**, is creation in slavery to now?
- What is creation's hope?
- What is the "**glorious freedom of the children of God**"?
- What, then, is Paul saying about the universe?
- What is the nature of creation's groaning according to **v22**?

- What should the Christian's attitude be to this future prospect?

### iii The Proof Part Two

- What, in one sentence, is the second part of Paul's proof for what he has said in **v18**?
- What does it mean that the Spirit is described as the "**firstfruits**" here in **v23**?
- What does the Holy Spirit do in us?
- When Paul talks about our adoption and redemption as future experiences, what is he saying about our current experience? After all, we are already adopted and redeemed, aren't we?
- When will our adoption and redemption be fully complete?
- What should the Christian's attitude be to this future prospect?

### iv The Implications

- What does Paul talk a lot about in **v24-25**?
- What is Christian hope?
- How are we to wait, according to both **v23** and **v25**?
- Is this true of you?

### Conclusion

- How does all this relate to those who are not Christians?
- What must you do if you are not a Christian?