INSIGHTS ON ROMANS: THE CHRISTIAN'S CONSTITUTION

**GLORYING AND GROANING** Romans 8:18-27

## The Heart of the Matter

Some Christians expect a "cloud nine" experience of uninterrupted peace, pleasure, and prosperity. But to keep things real, Paul introduced the other side of life: "groaning" (Romans 8:18–23). As long as we dwell in this world, believers will discover that suffering is a vital part of the spiritual journey toward maturity. And just as believers long for the day when our suffering in this world will come to an end, all creation itself waits to burst forth someday into a glory not experienced since the garden of Eden.



## Discovering the Way

1. Timeless Principle for All to Remember (Romans 8:18; Philippians 3:10)

Suffering is a vital part of growth on the path to glory (2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 1 Peter 5:10).

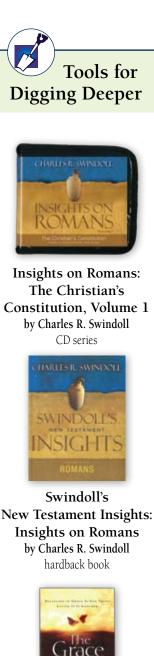
## 2. The Glorying and Groaning of God's Creation and Creatures (Romans 8:19-27)

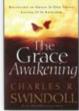
All creation groans in its current state of yearning for God's final act of redemption. Though often excruciatingly painful, our temporary suffering in this fallen world pales in comparison with the future glory.



## **Starting Your Journey**

Believers should acknowledge the sovereignty and goodness of God in the midst of our current sufferings; we should surrender to the working of God in our lives.





The Grace Awakening by Charles R. Swindoll hardback book

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