

At the start of the Reformation of the Church in Scotland in 1557, John Knox wrote to his congregation before going into exile and said,

*“You are bishops and kings; your wife, children, servants, and family are your bishopric and charge. Of you it shall be required how carefully and diligently you have instructed them in God’s true knowledge . . .*

*And therefore I say, you must make them partakers in, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.”*

# Let’s Worship God

3rd-8th June 2013  
Romans



Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

[airdrierpcs.org](http://airdrierpcs.org), 01236 620107  
Part of the RFCS - [rpcscotland.org](http://rpcscotland.org)

**Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!**



Mon.  
3rd June

# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.  
*Romans 5:9*

**reading** Romans 8:18-22 - Present Suffering

**notes** Our present experience as Christians is one of suffering. Our Lord Jesus Christ led a life of suffering while He was on earth, and we are joined to Him. But suffering will not go on forever. Christ is in glory, and in the future we shall be glorified together with Him. Both sufferings and glory are certain.

Look at verse 18 and imagine an accountant adding up items and figures in two different columns, and calculating the totals. The sum total in the column headed 'sufferings of this present time' bears no resemblance to the immense total in the column headed 'glory to be revealed to us'. They are not even worth comparing. One far outweighs the other. Present sufferings may appear to be incalculably great. But the future glories are infinitely greater.

Glory is not only a place to which we go, but also a condition or state which we receive in that place. The transformation of our bodies awaits us, but so does the perfection of our character, so that Christ shall be admired in us who believe. This glory will be ours when the present order of things comes to an end.

Having said this, Paul gives three reasons which make it certain that the present order cannot go on forever. They are that creation groans, we groan, and the Spirit groans.

In verses 19-22 Paul tells us that creation groans. This creation has been under a curse since the Fall of man. It is awaiting deliverance from that curse. It will be delivered at the time when God's children are openly announced. We will look more at that tomorrow.

**questions**

1. What will outweigh our present suffering?
2. Why does creation groan?

**praise pray**

Ps. 47:all

1. Give thanks that we have a future glory to look forward to.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Sat.  
8th June

# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.  
*Romans 5:9*

**reading** Romans 8:28-39 - The Love of God

**notes** The reasons for rejoicing are: all things are working together for our good; God will certainly bring us to glory; God is for us; and God will not hold anything back from us. The fifth reason is that we are uncondemned. Who can bring any charge against us seeing that the God of grace has been the Judge, and has declared us guiltless? Who is going to condemn us, seeing that it is God's Son who has died for our offenses, has risen again for our justification, and is bearing up our cause at God's right hand at this very moment? It is ludicrous to think that anyone can successfully bring a charge against the people of God, when God Himself has acted by His Son and has completely cleared them from sin's guilt and penalty. This is an immeasurable comfort to the believer as he struggles with sin and suffers in this earthly life.

The sixth reason for rejoicing is, in fact, a bringing together of all the other reasons. How greatly God loves His people! It is divine love, and therefore it is unconquerable love. Nothing whatever can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

It is true enough that, wherever they are found, God's people are suffering. Life, death, fears, Satan, and countless other trials and circumstances make their onslaughts upon us. But they cannot separate us from God's love, or stop us going to heaven. Not one of them can cut us off from our Saviour. Every difficulty is but one more stepping-stone to heaven, and we are therefore conquerors over them all. He who loves us has ordained it that way (see again verse 28). The strength and extent of His love for us was shown by what He did for us in Christ. He has loved us eternally, He loves us now, and He will love us forever. These are the great truths that guard our hearts as we seek to live the Christian life in the present world.

**questions**

1. Who can bring a charge against God's people?
2. How has God demonstrated His love?

**praise pray**

Ps. 50:1-6

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Fri.  
7th June

# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

*Romans 5:9*

**reading** Romans 8:28-39 - Certain and Sure

**notes** We're looking at the six reasons Paul gives us why we can rejoice in this present world. The first is that all things are working together for our good. The second reason is that God will certainly bring us to glory. Everyone whom He foreknew He has predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son. Is everyone going to be conformed to Christ's image? No. So that must mean that not everybody has been foreknown. Paul is using the word *knew* in its Hebrew sense. It means to know and love intimately, as in a marriage relationship. There are particular people whom God has intimately loved beforehand, and every one of them is going to be conformed to the image of His Son so that He might be the firstborn among them, the Elder Brother of that great family of the children of God.

Every person whom God so predestined He called by the gospel, justified, and glorified. It is all in the past tense, because it is so certain that it has as good as happened. Not one of those on whom God has set His love will fail to arrive in heaven. However many are our present sufferings, and however intense, we can rejoice that we are certain to arrive at our heavenly destination.

The third reason for rejoicing is that God is for us. Is there any other God? Is there any other with all power? No! Then nothing can prevail against God, or thwart His plan. His purposes for us shall surely come to pass, and no suffering of the present time can possibly alter this.

The fourth reason is that God will not hold back anything from us. He delivered up His Son for us. That was His greatest gift. Will He then withhold lesser gifts from us? Will He withhold heaven from us? Or the grace, courage, and strength to live through present trials? No, He will freely give us all things.

**questions**

1. What can we be sure of as Christians?
2. What will God give us in our trials?

**praise pray** Ps. 49:7-14

1. Give thanks that God is for us.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Tue.  
4th June

# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

*Romans 5:9*

**reading** Romans 8:19-22 - Creation Groaning

**notes** At the end of the world there will be a resurrection of the just and the unjust. It will be quite clear who are the children of God. Until then we cannot be perfectly certain who is a child of God and who is not, for there are many counterfeits and apostates in the world. But then it will be plain to see. Creation is longing for that day. It is straining at the neck, like someone in a crowd, longing to see exactly who are the sons of God.

The Fall of man had a woeful effect on the creation. The whole of it is out of joint. God subjected the creation to this; it did not bring it willingly upon itself. God decreed that the state of creation should be linked to the state of His highest creature - man. When man rebelled, creation was affected. Yet God subjected it in hope. He has determined that its present condition is not to be its permanent condition. It will not always be uncoordinated, ravaged by sin, and spoiled by man's corruption.

When redemption is complete, and there is no more curse, the creation is going to share as much in the bliss of that day as it did in the curse of the Fall. There will be a new heaven and a new earth, for the present ones will be destroyed and remade without a trace of corruption. Nothing at all about creation will be spoiled. It will shine out in its proper splendour, telling out the glory of God in a way which far surpasses that of the present creation.

Creation cannot wait for that day. It is only in its present condition through God's appointment, not through its own desire. It cannot wait to be free, just as a woman in labour longs to be delivered of her child. Creation's groaning demonstrates that the present order will not go on forever, and that better things lie ahead; that is Paul's whole point.

**questions**

1. How did the Fall affect creation?
2. Will this last forever?

**praise pray** Ps. 48:1-6

1. Give thanks that one day there will be a new heavens and a new earth.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

*Romans 5:9*

**reading** Romans 8:23-27 - We Groan

**notes** Not only creation groans, but we groan too. This is taught in verses 23-25. We groan to be free from this body of death and long for the resurrection day. Meanwhile, we have the firstfruits of the Spirit. Firstfruits means the guarantee of a future harvest. Sin in us makes us groan, and causes us to long for the day when things will be different. Yet the presence of the Holy Spirit within us is a guarantee that that day will come. The Spirit is a foretaste of heaven. Having the foretaste, we long for the feast! But the foretaste is in itself the guarantee that the feast is going to follow!

Let s put it another way. We have learned that the Spirit within us assures us of our adoption. His very residence within us causes us to long earnestly for the day when our adoption will be openly declared. Our inward longing, inspired by the Spirit, is in fact a guarantee that that day will certainly come.

It has not yet come. But it will come! In the New Testament, the word hope does not mean a fond wish, but an absolute certainty. We are saved in hope. The climax and completion of our salvation has yet to come, but there is no doubt at all that it will come! The present effect of having such a hope is that we patiently wait for it. All this serves Paul s purpose to show us that the present order will not go on forever, and that glory will follow our present sufferings

Besides this, the Spirit groans as we read in verses 26-27. As believers we are overcome with all sorts of difficulties. If it were not for the indwelling might of the Holy Spirit, we would be crushed by them. We are going to look at how the Holy Spirit helps us and groans with us tomorrow.

**questions**  
1.What do we long for?  
2.What is the firstfruit of heaven?

**praise pray** Ps. 48:7-10  
1. Give thanks for certain hope.  
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.  
3 Pray for family matters.



# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

*Romans 5:9*

**reading** Romans 8:26-39 - The Spirit Groans

**notes** We are particularly weak in prayer. We do not know what to pray for, or how to present our petitions to God, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. As Christians, we inwardly sigh, and long for the resurrection and the new heavens and earth. We groan inside, and long to be out of this world, and in the place where we belong. Who stirs up these desires? The Holy Spirit! And who communicates them to God? The Holy Spirit! Prayers according to the will of God are the work of the Holy Spirit. All prayers and petitions asked according to His will are heard and granted. This means that our inward longings will become fact. The adoption, the resurrection, and the new heaven and earth shall be ours! These inward groanings are a further guarantee that the present order will not go on forever, and that present sufferings will at last give way to glory.

In verses 28-39 Paul gives us at least six reasons why we can rejoice. The first is that all things are working together for our good. In the final analysis we shall see that nothing has worked for the good of the wicked. Without exception, everything is working together for the benefit of God s people. This is true even of our sins, though we must not conclude that we can deliberately sin, as chapters 6 and 7 have made clear. All who love God are included in this promise. They love Him because He called them, and He called them because He purposed to do so. His purposes are working out in every circumstance and event, so that everything serves the welfare of His children. This is an immense consolation to believers as they endure suffering in this world while waiting to go to heaven. We ll look at the other reasons to rejoice tomorrow.

**questions**  
1. Who presents our prayers to God?  
2. What do we know about what happens in the life of the Christian?

**praise pray** Ps. 49:1-6  
1. Give thanks that all things work together for good for the believer.  
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.  
3 Pray for family matters.