

No Comparison

Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

The words “I consider” mean I am persuaded; I am absolutely sure. This means what Paul is about to say leaves no room for doubt. “You can take that to the bank” as the saying goes.

There are a great many sufferings here on earth. There are physical maladies a plenty. Every day we hear and read about misery and pain. Every day our bodies become more frail. Even the Apostle Paul had a thorn in his flesh. There are mental regrets and illness like dementia. There is emotional distress. Every day we are hindered by our physical shortcomings. I have had Dyslexia all my life. It is a learning disability that makes reading and language-related tasks much harder. Many days my wife and I say “I am not going to take this to heaven.”

All the troubles which can come upon us Christians are with us only at this present time, for the length of this fleeting life, at the worst, for a moment as compared with the coming eternal life. And it is light, easy to be borne, comparatively speaking. But the time is coming, and that soon, when the eternal glory will be revealed to us, and this is so wonderful, so great and extensive, so weighty and endless that the slight oppression of the life on earth will be forgotten. The miracle is so great which is to follow this present tribulation as though produced by it, though it is a reward of grace, that Paul cannot find words enough to express the thought that is clamoring for utterance. Exceedingly, abundantly, from one excess to another, will God give us the glory which He has prepared since before the foundation of the world for them that love Him.

Revelation 21:1-5 says it well when we read: *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”*

Prayer: Dear Lord help us to remain faithful unto death that we may attain the crown of life. Amen