

## 20230625 HOPE – THE SONG OF THE UNIVERSE

Romans 8:14-32

- <sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.
- <sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “[Abba,] Father.”
- <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.
- <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.
- <sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
- <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.
- <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope
- <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.
- <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.
- <sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.
- <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?
- <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.
- <sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.
- <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.
- <sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

- <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.
- <sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
- <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

### THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HOPE WE HAVE IN CHRIST

#### 1. The concrete frame of our hope in Christ - our sonship through adoption

##### Romans 8:14-18

- <sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.
- <sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, **the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship.** And by him we cry, “[Abba,] Father.”
- <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.
- <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.
- <sup>18</sup> I **consider** that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

##### 1 John 4:17-19

- <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: **In this world we are like Jesus.**
- <sup>18</sup> There is **no fear in love.** But **perfect love drives out fear,** because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
- <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us.

#### 2. The immense scope of our hope in Christ – The whole creation

### **Romans 8:19-23**

<sup>19</sup> For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

<sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

<sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

<sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

### **Romans 8:18**

<sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

## **3. The irresistible force of our hope in Christ – The purpose of God**

### **Romans 8:28-30**

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

<sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

<sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

### **Romans 8:31-32**

<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

<sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?