

Romans 8:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Analysis

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (logizomai hoti ouk axia ta pathēmata tou nun kairou pros tēn mellousan doxan apokalupthēnai eis hēmas)—Logizomai ("I reckon") is accounting terminology: Paul has calculated the comparison and reached a verdict. Ouk axia ("not worthy") means sufferings don't deserve comparison—the disproportion is infinite. Pathēmata includes all Christian suffering: persecution, illness, loss, sorrow.

The glory which shall be revealed in us (tēn mellousan doxan apokalupthēnai eis hēmas)—The glory isn't merely to us but in us (eis hēmas). The passive apokalupthēnai ("be revealed") indicates God unveils what is presently hidden. Believers will be transformed into Christ's glorious image (2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 3:21; 1 John 3:2). This glory is melousa ("about to be"), imminent on God's timeline though delayed by human reckoning (2 Peter 3:8-9).

Historical Context

Paul wrote during Nero's early reign (AD 57); persecution would intensify dramatically within a decade. For Roman Christians facing potential martyrdom, this verse provided hope: present suffering, however intense, cannot compare with coming glory. This sustained believers through centuries of persecution from Nero through Diocletian.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does contemplating future glory help endure present suffering without minimizing real pain?
2. What specific aspects of "the glory to be revealed" do you most long for?
3. How does this verse answer the question "Why do Christians suffer?"

Interlinear Text

Λογίζομαι γὰρ ὅτι οὐκ ἀξια τὰ παθήματα τοῦ
I reckon For that are not worthy G3588 the sufferings G3588
G3049 G1063 G3754 G3756 G514 G3804

νῦν καιροῦ πρὸς τὴν μέλλουσαν δόξαν
of this present time to be compared with G3588 which shall the glory
G3568 G2540 G4314 G3195 G1391

ἀποκαλυφθῆναι εἰς ἡμᾶς
be revealed in us
G601 G1519 G2248

Additional Cross-References

1 Peter 4:13 (Glory): But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

Acts 20:24 (Parallel theme): But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Colossians 3:4 (Glory): When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

1 Peter 1:13 (Parallel theme): Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

1 John 3:2 (Parallel theme): Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

2 Thessalonians 2:14 (Glory): Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 5:1 (Glory): The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

Hebrews 11:35 (Parallel theme): Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: