

- Here is where we are at:
- We are all depraved that is we cannot do good, as defined by God – not our culture.
 

Psa 14:2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. Psa 14:3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that do good, no, not one. [KJV]
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- Even though we want to do what is right, I cannot I don't have the ability.
 

Rom 7:18 ... For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.  Rom 7:24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?
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- God sent His son as a propitiation. As the mercy seat.
  - ◇ The place of mercy where His wrath is appeased - His wrath for our depravity.
  - ◇ The place of where God will meet us.
- God's wrath is appeased by sacrifice, the sacrifice of Jesus; the cost of our *redemption*.
  - ◇ That is, Jesus redeemed us by paying our penalty, the death penalty for our depravity.
- And in this way Jesus justifies us.
  - ◇ He makes us presentable to the Lord by purifying us
  - ◇ By removing our sins
 

Psa 103:12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
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- And we are no longer condemned.
  - ◇ We are no longer guilty, we no longer have to suffer the penalty for sin.
- We are in fact adopted as Gods children.
  - ◇ And we are given an inheritance.
- But, along with that inheritance comes suffering
  - ◇ As far as we can tell from the text – and discussion last week, necessarily.
  - ◇ Meaning the children of God will suffer, it is necessary.
    - Gee that not much of a inheritance is it?
    - The author of Hebrews gives us an idea of the purpose of suffering.

Heb 2:9 ... crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.  
 Heb 2:10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

- Perfect through suffering...Jesus perfect through suffering
  - ◇ We are also being made perfect through suffering
  - ◇ **Heb 12:2** keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.
- Somewhat of a mystery why God worked it out this way.
  - ◇ Or perhaps it is innate in the system.
  - ◇ *Illustration on hard work to learn...USMC, College...*

Rom 5:3-4 ...we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope

- Suffering increasing endurance (patience) ... leads to ...
- Character (maturity, wisdom) ... leads to ...
- Hope: Hope not as we understand hope as if there is an element of luck.
  - Hope better defined in 8:24

Rom 8:17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided [if perhaps, if indeed] we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

⊗ And that is where we left off last week.

- Marveling at Gods plan
  - ◇ Rom 8:18 For (BECAUSE) I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
- So there is a glory beyond the gifts of virtue.
  - ◇ 1Co 2:9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"--
- What kind of glory could this be?
  - ◇ God allowed Paul a few peeks at the wonder of plan.
    - ◇ Rom 8:19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

- That is all creation is eagerly waiting for when God reveals his chosen?
  - ◇ This word eager [jɪeɪlʰiɛcʰɪp-ok-ar-ad-ok-ee'-ah] is an intense expectation.
    - All creation has intense expectations waiting for God to complete His plan
 

Rom 8:20-21 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of *him* who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
- The '**him**' who subjected creation to futility has been suggested to be either Adam or God
  - ◇ I tend to think it is God because the following sentence says that the subject has “hope” that the creation will be set free.
- What is this freedom of the glory of the children of God

Isa 11:6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.  
 Isa 11:7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
 Isa 11:8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.  
 Isa 11:9 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
- Interesting; very peaceful...
 

Rom 8:22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.
- Let's go back to Adam for a moment.
- Genesis 3; Creation punished with Adams sin.
  - ◇ A very interesting personification of Creation.
    - Compare to Rom 1; worship of a fallen creation.
    - I think it is to really tie us into the universe – who has been suffering along with us due to the original sin.
- What a great image of child birth.
  - ◇ All creation is painfully struggling for our rebirth.
  - ◇ Birth
    - Not of human effort
    - Wonderful feeling with the birth
 

Rom 8:23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

- We have been given the first fruits of the Spirit, that is the Holy Spirit, the spirit of God has been brought to us as first fruits...as the down payment of our inheritance.
  - ◇ Remember Ephesians – the end of last week
 

Eph 1:13-14 ...Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession - - to the praise of his glory.
  - ◇ Jesus sent the helper to live in us, we house the Spirit of God, we are temples
 

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,
- “Redemption of our bodies” in heaven.
 

Rom 8:24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?  
Rom 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
- We have heard the word hope several times through this.
  - ◇ Now I mentioned before that hope here is not as we think of it as having an element of luck
  - ◇ It is more along the lines of looking forward to the promises of God
 

Rom 8:26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.  
Rom 8:27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.  
Rom 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
- Gods purpose
 

Rom 8:29 For those whom he *foreknew* he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
- Jesus being the first born among the many of us that God is conforming
- Foreknew
 

Rom 8:30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.
- What a great progression.
  - ◇ God foreknew those that would come to Him
  - ◇ So he set their destiny in justification and glory.

Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Rom 8:32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Rom 8:33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Rom 8:34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died--more than that, who was raised--who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

Rom 8:36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

Rom 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

- Ps 44:22
- We are put forward as sacrifices.
- But these things are small compared to our final inheritance – we are conquerors.
- We are conquerors of this world through our understanding of its transient.

Rom 8:38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

Rom 8:39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Get the point, there is nothing that can separate us from Gods love.
  - ◊ Perseverance of the saints
- But what then of Israel? One has to ask. It sure seems they have been separated from the love of God.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Definition of “Good”.
  - a. Biblically; as in Ps 14.
  - b. Culturally.Trick of Satan to make the word banal.
2. Is Paul referring to God or Adam when he writes,
3. For all those deep thinkers: Following Leibniz logic; God is omnipotent [He knows all], God knows all possible worlds that could be created. God is good and perfect [omnibenevolent].
  - Then it follows that God created "the best of all possible worlds".
  - If so why only *now* did He offer us the avenue of “no condemnation”?