

I Reckon It Will Be Worth It

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And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 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. **Rom. 8:17-18**

- I. It will be worth it all when we see Jesus.
 - A. No one should expect to get through this life without suffering some things.
 - B. We are told clearly that if we are going to be glorified with Jesus then we must suffer with him also.
 - C. The things we suffer here all have one thing in common and that is that they seem unjust.
 1. We can always look around us and find someone who really deserves to suffer what we are suffering, but they go free, while we suffer what we don't deserve.
 2. We have all asked the question "Why?" and "Why me?" or "Why them?"
 - D. Seldom is there any obvious reason or logic in the suffering of a Christian.
 1. It seems totally out of place and useless at the time it is happening.
 2. Most people judge it to be undeserved, also.
 - E. Likewise, there is seldom any obvious reason or logic in the suffering of the lost.
 1. We can imagine that it is because of their sin, and sin certainly does bring suffering and death, but trouble and suffering are common to all men.
- II. The sufferings of this present time can be heavy indeed.
 - A. Loss of health and mobility or sight, or other faculties.
 - B. Loss of loved ones or long separation from them. (i.e.; MIA's, jail, etc.)
 - C. Loss of earthly goods for which we have worked a lifetime.
 - D. Betrayal by spouse or loved ones.
 - E. Toil and labor that seem endless.
 - F. Persecution for righteousness sake.
- III. We must do some "reckoning" like Paul did.
 - A. We have to take all things into consideration and not focus on the suffering.
 - B. In order to reckon properly we must enlarge our vision and comprehension of things.
 - C. We have to look beyond the present circumstances.
 - D. We have to look beyond the present bounds within which we live.
 - E. We have to know something of what eternity holds for us.
 - F. We must lay what we have here alongside what awaits us in eternity and see the value of both side by side.
 - G. We have to realize that what we are experiencing now is temporary while what awaits us in the future is eternal.
 - H. Until we come to the conclusion that it will be worth it all when we see Jesus, we have not learned to reckon right.

- I. Once we have we will be able to live in peace and have the strength to endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.