

Phillip Yancey: *"We need to let it soak in that there is nothing we can do to make God love us more . . . + nothing we can do to make G love us less."* **Loves U!**

**Does GRACE let U "off the hook" or tolerate sin in *me + others*? "Shall we go on sinning?"**

**GRACE reminds us: we "get to" live differently b/c of what G did thru Christ (sent Son).**

**Righteous living=not <sup>a</sup>burden, to-do list, way G will "love me more" → **living life as a GIFT!****

**\*RU *burdened* today? Long to-do list, longer?**

**Consider how grace offers new thinking, speaking, actions → actually lighten load, +**

**result in better life with God + others!**

1Corinthians 10:11 These things happened to them as **examples** and were written down as **warnings** for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come.

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to **teach** us, so that through the **endurance** taught in the Scriptures and the **encouragement** they provide we might have **hope**.

*Even in hope, great future, may grow weary!*

**?? Vacation: "When R we going to get there?"**

**Bored, ~process! What do b/t NOW+THEN?**

**READ: 8:18-27 PRAY: know life HS, live, share!**

## ***“What to do while U’re waiting”***

**VAC: 1) *wait* patiently; 2) *Use* what U have!**

**Rewards + Threats! *Play games or sleep!***

Paul: v.18-25 *What to know*; v.26-7 *What U have!*

***“What to do while UR waiting”* *What RU W for?***

1-word focus ***“waiting”***: child (older); MS/HS (independent); college (action); M,no childrn (roadblocks); raise ch (weary); teens (risk); grown ch (wonder); @any age (health, \$Fin).

**For U! Values: G,W,Gosp, → U, o/a, mission!**

**v.18-25** Anticipate your future glory **Wait =**

- tolerable by comparison (v.18).

*“our present sufferings are not worth comparing”*  
***Stunning***, in 1<sup>st</sup>c.! ~suffer! **Dog** w/wireless **F!**

**Note** → res: ***G’s*** promises/W! (*obligatn? Ltr?*)

*E.G. Read next Sun, 2Pet 1:3-4; 1Th 5:13, Rev21*  
*Whether* ***coach*** (sports), ***teacher*** (sch), ***disciple*!**

- surrounded by expectations (v.19-22).

*“The creation waits in eager expectation”*

**Humanizes!** (*anthro-po-mor-phism*) ***“decay”***

***“child birth”*** Heb 9:27-8; Gal 5:5; Phil 3:20

- guaranteed by down-payment (v.23-25).  
**READ 23** “we...have the firstfruits of the Spirit”  
OT<sup>feast</sup> firstfruits<sup>Lev2</sup>. Celebrate **HS** begins! 24-5  
\*\*What 2 know: Anticipate UR future glory...  
Wait=tolerable by comparison; expectations;  
down-payment guarantees it! UR hope=REAL!  
\*\*\* ...because patient endurance leads to hope.  
**Rom 5** (process) suffer:persevere:char:hope!  
**1Cor 4** similar: ...outwardly wasting away...  
Not wish on a STAR! Hope in hope →person!  
**Not** <sup>just</sup>anticipate (hope)... **also** what **U** have:  
v.26-27 Activate UR present provision **HS!**
- **HS:** He supports our prayer, v.26.  
“the Spirit helps us ... to pray”  
*U have* fears?...what say? how? forget? **Public?**  
**Here=** promise U<sup>can</sup> trust, use, rely on! Use?
- **HS:** He compensates for R problem, v.26.  
**Note** repetition (known as “chiasmus”):  
A “The Spirit helps” B “in our weakness” B “for we do not know what to pray” A “but *the Sp intercedes* w/unspeakable groanings”<sup>22</sup> **Insight!** <sup>1C14,E6</sup>:Pr in S  
*Always:* Rejoic, Thanx, PRAY **1Th.5:17** “w/o ceasing!”

- **HS:** He knows the answer, v.27.

Jl Packer "Knowing God" We miss G's wisdom if we think we R air traffic controllers. Track each plane in R sector, anticipate where~go! In + around us—we see it! Never all that! ~drive on winding road @night. Turn, slow! Not complete pic → enough: next step <sup>of</sup> faith.

Next wk → "Celebrating security!" **BIG Pic!**  
 \*what U have: Activate UR present provision  
Holy Sp=supports r prayer; compensates 4 R problem; **HS** knows <sup>the</sup> answer it! UR help=**REAL!**  
 ... because hope is based on God's will.

*Instead of* **focus**: what <sup>we</sup> DO; who G is + <sup>HE</sup> doing!

Here v.18-27 = what to know + what U have!

\*\*\*Know future glory! Have <sup>the</sup> Holy Spirit!

\*\*\*RU living on UR own? On UR plan?\*\*\*

...or climbing "Corp Ladder" → up wrong wall?

@home: patience, diff. habits, emph. "Lie pit!"

@sch/wk: "as for the Lord," notice people! **Opp!**

@church: gain "outward focus" ...to "shepherd the flock"<sup>1Pet5:1</sup> care → "equip for service"<sup>Eph4:12</sup>

*In short, ?? Will U ask God to make...*

His priority<sup>URs</sup>; focus<sup>URs</sup>; power UR strength?

*In Romans... 1:16* For I am **not ashamed** of the gospel, because it is the **power** of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...

**5:1-5** Therefore, since we have been justified thru faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have **gained access by faith** into this **grace** in which we now stand. And we boast in the **hope** of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also glory in our **sufferings**, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

<sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; + character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's **love** has been **poured out** into our hearts thru the **Holy Spirit**, who has been **given to us**. **6:1** Shall we go on sinning that grace may increase? By no means!

**8 [next week]** "nothing can separate us from the love of G that is in CJ our Lord!" >>specific: 15:7  
Accept 1-another, then, just as X accepted U, in order to bring praise to G! **15:23-4** ...when I go to Spain. I hope to see U while passing thru +to have U "equip" me on my journey there! <sup>30</sup> "join <sup>my</sup> struggle—pray!"  
Romans=not random Ltr, >pers/1CH, UR church!

**\*Believe future glory! Live in power HS! PRAY!**

**Benediction:** "So do not **fear**, for I am with you; do not be **dismayed**, for I am your God. I will **strengthen** you and **help** you; I will **uphold** you with my righteous right hand." **Isa 41:10**