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Message Notes | 01/26/2025

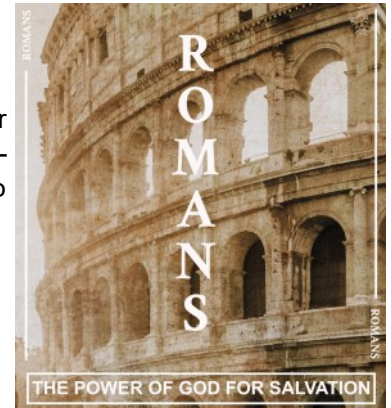
In-Between

Romans 8:17&18



¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

What is *the* “In-Between”?



What is *in* the “In-Between”?

What God is doing in the “In-Between”?

Discussion Questions

Romans 8:17&18

Getting Started - What are some common items you’ve found in-between your couch cushions, the couch and the wall, your bed and the wall, or your car seats?

Read Romans 8:17-24

Digging Deeper

- 1) **In-Between Realities** - Christians live in between two ages or realities. Romans 8:17-24 alludes to at least four different images that illustrate this concept.
 - a) What are these images and what do they suggest about our current experience as Christians?
 - b) Are there other passages of Scripture that highlight this tension?

- 2) **"Already" and "Not Yet"** - The concept of salvation is often described as an "Already" and "Not Yet" experience.
- a) How do the images from the previous question help explain this phrase?
 - b) Some Christians may lean too heavily on the "already" or the "not yet" in their expectations for life, themselves, or others. What might that imbalance look like?
- 3) **Saved, Yet Not Fully Saved** - Romans 8:14-16 and 8:23-24 describe Christians as saved but not yet fully saved.
- a) What does this mean from the passages above? Compare with Romans 5:9&10.
 - b) Do a google search on "already not yet" passages. What insights do you find?
- 4) **The Redemption of Our Bodies** - In Romans 8:23-24, we're told our bodies are not redeemed yet.
- a) Survey Romans 6-8 to define what Paul means by "body."
 - b) According to Romans 8:11, when will the body be redeemed?
 - c) Until that redemption, what does Romans 8 teach us to expect during this in-between time for our "body"?
- 5) **Suffering in the In-Between** - In Romans 8:17-18, Paul discusses the suffering Christians should expect between rebirth and glorification.
- a) What is meant by "suffering," and what types do we find in this chapter?
 - b) If Christians do not expect or fail to prepare for suffering, what are some harmful conclusions they might draw? Share from personal experience.

6) **Suffering and Glory** - Verse 17 makes an extraordinary claim: *suffering does not negate or oppose your glory as a child of God—it prepares and facilitates it.*

a) How is this idea taught in verse 17?

b) Compare this with 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. What does Paul add here?

Making It Real

- What are you currently suffering? Share with the group.
- In addition to praying for relief, pray that God would use suffering to shape each other into the children of God you already are.

Resources:

- **Romans: Righteousness from Heaven** | R. Kent Hughes
- www.blueletterbible.org
- www.biblehub.com
- www.preceptaustin.org