

UNSATISFIED CHILDREN

Romans 8:22-23

Introduction: Our world has some beautiful places but as beautiful as it is, it is not as it once was for it has been cursed by its creator, God. There are now earthquakes, floods, tornados, hurricanes, pestilences, wildness, volcanoes, weeds, etc. As the scripture states, the earth, creation groans and sighs to be restored to its Garden of Eden existence. However, not only does the earth sigh and groan for relief and restoration, mankind also sighs, groans and seeks relief from sickness, disease, crime, violence, wars and all the evil that exists. Especially unsatisfied and unhappy on this earth are God's Children, Christians.

I. BELIEVERS, CHRISTIANS SIGH AND SEEK RELIEF

1. Christians were once unbelievers like most of mankind, enemies to God, alienated from God, living lives of sinfulness, living as the world lives.
2. Christians have been changed, they have been given a new life, they have the Holy Spirit of God living within them, they now have eternal life, a promised place in Heaven and will someday occupy that very place, therefore a part of the Christian is restless and seeks relief.
3. Any person who becomes separated from where his/her heart is wants a change, wants to be with what/who/where his/her heart is, whether it be family, home, country, etc.
 - Those who have to travel are always anxious to get back "home."
4. Christians are not satisfied with their present situation and long for what awaits them, God's promises.

II. WHAT IS LACKING FOR CHRISTIANS THAT CAUSES UNSATISFACTION?

1. Christians still have their same bodies as they had before becoming a Christian.
 - Their soul and spirit are eternal but remain in the same human body born with.
 - The body ages, has ailments and eventually dies.
 - The health of the body affects one's joy, even though one be saved.
 - The soul and spirit are free but the body is still in bondage and goes through aging process.
 - Therefore Christians long to be free from this earthly body and have their new, promised one being finally totally whole and complete.
2. Christians belong to God's Family, yet are still in this world.
 - They are heirs to all of God's riches, but are still slaves and paupers in comparison.
 - They are waiting to be robed in garments fitting for the Children of God.
 - They are waiting for all creation to know they are God's Children.
 - Therefore Christians long to be accepted for who/what they really are, God's Children.
3. Christians have been made free, yet they are still unfree.
 - What freedom did John have on the isle of Patmos?
 - Christians are still confined to this life, living on earth, doing human things.
 - Christians are children of the KING but have no Kingdom.

- Christians, therefore long to be rid of the bonds of this earthly "prison."
- Christians must live on Adam's world, but must stay in God's "greenhouse" of grace to survive.

III. THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

1. The Christian's life on this earth could be described as a rainbow of grief and bliss - plaid patchwork of light and dark.
2. All Christians long for the "harvest" for God to call all His Children Home, to enjoy all of God's promises.
3. The Christian's life is mixed with joy, happiness, sin, sadness, sorrow, elation, longing, anticipation.
 - Christians live two lives - the human one they were born with and the new one they were given upon their belief in Jesus Christ.
 - Christians enjoy things here on earth, but long for the permanent, eternal things awaiting them in Heaven.

CONCLUSION:

1. Christians are not completely satisfied with their lives here on earth for they know that something beyond their understanding awaits them when they can finally leave this world.
2. What do YOU long for? Something earthly? Something heavenly?
3. When death calls you, will you want to go?
4. Christian, it is a strange thing if you say you believe in Jesus but you don't want to leave this world and go to what He has prepared for you. Don't you think?