

Tuesday, September 22, 2020
Devotional Thoughts from Pastor Jim Murr...

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

Romans 8: 18

So, basically, heaven is going to be soooooo great that the difficult times we experienced in this life will seem insignificant once we get there. Yes, God knows that the hardships that so many people face in this life are pretty bad. Although the term "hardship" is a relative term. For some people, it is a hardship to stay in a hotel that doesn't offer room service.

God wants us to know that the pain of this life will be a distant memory (and not even a memory) once we get to heaven. He wants us to hang in there, and take Him at His Word that it will be great. Seventy or 80 or even 90 years of ups and downs will seem like a blink of an eye compared to an eternity of joy and bliss. It's kind of like having an itchy spot on your face. You have it for a split second, but as soon as you scratch it, it's gone. The difficulties of this life will seem like a split-second itch once we are in the presence of God.

We know more about the "sufferings of this present time" than we do about "the glory that is to be revealed to us." So, we just need to trust God when He tells us that it's gonna be great! The struggles of this life are just an "itch" compared to the joy of heaven. This is not to make light of the struggles that some people are going through even as this devotion is being written. It is not to mean any disrespect toward the scores of people on earth whose lives are horribly difficult – physically, emotionally, or mentally.

But God wants to hold out hope to a fallen world. This fallen world has been redeemed by the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We live in this world, but we don't need to count on this world to be the source of our fulfillment. Life in this world is a staging area for what is to come. So, we hang in there. The time is coming soon!

God's Peace!
Pastor Jim