

The
Groaning
Creation

By
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All Scripture quotations are from the
King James Version of the bible.

Published by Brenda Price Ministries Publishing

Printed in the U.S.A.

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Introduction

I was on a fast January of 2006. About half way through the middle of a twenty-one day fast I had a dream. It was more in my hearing than something that I saw. I heard these words: The devil wants to quench the groan so he feeds it.

Maybe you don't understand what that means. I only had a vague idea myself. So I began to study this word. I looked up scripture and found that the word *sighing* also means groaning in many cases.

That coupled with other scriptures began to unfold some of what is contained in this mystery. I am sure I have only scratched the surface but it is the message of the hour. The Lord is trying to convey to us what was on his heart. When he sends us a dream, an impression, or a word he is relating what is important to both him and us. We must take the time to research what He gives us. One of the best ways I have found is to find the scriptures relating to the subject and then look up key words in the concord. You would be surprised at the encrypted messages He has placed within each verse. It can be great fun, it teaches you verses you may not be familiar with and it gives Him a chance to relate to you through His written word. There are many mysteries that are waiting to be discovered through research and being a scriptural archaeologist.

For many years I would receive revelations

from the word. My files are full of “chicken scratch” notes. But I do not retain many of these until I go back and revisit these notes. Then they come back to me. However those I have not written (and there were many that I didn’t) are lost to me forever. I have made a decision to get the full meaning of what God is saying before I move on to excavate the next finding. Don’t get me wrong I will record what I hear in my bible reading and prayer life. I have a little book I take with me in order to record these impressions as I receive them. I rehearse them and pray over them. So I do not just stay on one subject in one sense.

However I need to take more time to develop the strongest words and find out the most necessary things. So I am developing this message as I go. I am sure I will receive more and more on this subject as time goes by, but since time is short I will write what I have already uncovered and I pray it is a blessing to you.



Chapter One

What Scriptures Relate to the groan?

There are many scriptures that have the same meaning as the word groan. For instance one of the scriptures we will be using will be Ezekiel 9:4

And the Lord said unto him, go through the midst of the city through the midst of Jerusalem and set a mark upon the foreheads of men that sigh (groan) and that cry (also can mean groan) for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

So often the word *sigh* or *cry* can mean groan. This study is inexhaustible. There are so many layers of depth to be found in this teaching. As you read this little booklet allow God to reveal his heart to you. Remember that to stay in union with our creator we are to feel as he feels. This reaction translates into deeper prayer and speaking out when the Lord impresses you to. We are called to respond emotionally with our Lord.

One thing that is hard to understand is God's responses to things. For instance he may allow a murderer to seemingly go unpunished. Then again he says in one place, I will laugh at their calamity. He is speaking of the day that judgment falls on the

rebellious. He will laugh or it seems he is saying “justice is served.” So he sees things a lot differently than we do. But one thing is for sure, He is holy and everything he says and feels is also holy.

Sometimes He looks for an intercessor to hold back his judgment, to intercede for the ones marked for judgment. He said to Moses that He was ready to wipe out Israel and make a new nation out of Moses. Moses pled with God and God repented of the evil He thought to do unto his people.

A lot of the groaning is merely intercession. God had said to Moses *leave me alone that my wrath may wax hot against them, that I may consume them*. Then Moses began to remind God of how he had delivered his people with a mighty hand. He reasoned that people would say that God had brought them out to destroy them. Then he began to remind the Lord of all his promises that he had made to Abraham, Isaac and Israel (Jacob.)

So when it says that Moses besought the Lord on Israel’s behalf, the word *besought* can mean to grieve, or make sick or cause weakness. This was so effective that God did a strange thing. It then says God repented. The word repented here has several meaning. But the ones that struck me the most was, it can mean to sigh, be sorry, take pity and feel relieved. We know that the word sigh also means groan in Aramaic. This is the language that the Old Testament is written in. So here we see God sighing or groaning. The only other place in scripture that I am presently aware of that speaks of God groaning is when Jesus groaned at the grave of Lazarus. Remember that Jesus said that He only does what He sees the Father do.

We too should join with the Father when he sighs, groans and when he is made sorry by the acts of this rebellious people. How does God awaken us to the fact that it is time to groan?

Read the next chapter and find out.



Chapter Two

Things God Uses to Bring a Groan

One day when I was on a three day fast, the Lord said to me, “I created loneliness, emptiness, voids, longings, and desire that seems to never be filled.” I knew these seemed to be negative emotions but he began to reveal that he uses these things as a call. The Bible refers to deep calling unto deep. You have a depth in you that goes beyond your soul realm. This cry comes from a time that your soul when first created was unencumbered by a body. God first created us in his presence. Something in us recalls this great new beginning. The fullness of joy that it held. For whatever time we were in Gods presence before entering into a human body is forever etched in our Spirit. The time we spent in his hands as He formed us is unforgettable. It would be some time before we got this close to him again.

The Bible says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. We have desired this ever since. Our soul is on a search for what we know not. But the diagram of our past, the DNA of our Spirit has its memory in full form. And we have desired this clothing, this glory ever since. In our feeble and desperate search we seem to come short

of it.

Why are we always so needy? We can have a hundred houses, cars, and suits of clothes and still we groan. We can be rich or poor and we still groan. We can be young or old, beautiful or homely, smart or dumb, still we groan. We eat and we are not filled, we thirst and we are still dry.

That is why we look for that crazy missing part as Keith Green put it. But God is too obvious of an answer. We see him as abstract and far away. And we don't know how to reach him so we continue our search with our five senses in charge. We become bound to what we see, hear, feel, taste and smell. That becomes our compass. These things are byproducts of its producer. It was to be useful in serving him. It was the spirit of man that was top priority to God. The senses are tools to help us while in the body. They were never meant to be totally self-serving. You must use these assets the way the maker intended for them to be used. If you do not use them to benefit the kingdom, then you do not function properly. No matter how many things we put in our arsenal of self-defense and our need to feel important, we can't find the fulfillment we seek. Even ministry does not produce it. It can come real close to it and sometimes we feel that satisfaction and mistake it for the whole thing, and we become deceived.

For years I have had tremendous seasons of sensing the closeness of the manifestation of the things God created me for. I have touched it, felt it, in every form I have partaken of this mystery and its rewards but I only maintained it for portions of time. I could never bring myself to the point of the

surrender necessary. I knew the price tag was to die. Sometimes I begged for it, sometimes I preferred it but the flesh is strong and desires to live. I'm not speaking here of physical death, I am speaking of the death of self-desire. And so the battle continued. But I never gave up.

We often feel lonely and unfulfilled. Sometimes this feeling can be almost suffocating. I remember one time after my divorce waking up suddenly with a rush of emptiness like I had never known. I had been sound to sleep when I woke up feeling like I couldn't hardly breath. It was as if everything living was dead and I was left alive. I cried to the Lord, "Please send someone into my life, I can't stand this empty void that I am living in." I cried until I felt somewhat relieved. But it did not end there. I realize now that it was God calling me to my prayer closet so he could fill me with himself.

Today while I am writing this chapter I am thinking about Pastor Brett's teaching this morning in church. He was speaking of how many of God's moves came out of a desert experience. I suddenly had a thought concerning the word that God had given me about the voids and emptiness we feel. I had a mental picture of this vast desert. There was nothing in it but me. I cried Lord why am I here in this empty place? Where are my friends, my feeling of security? Then I heard. "Now that everything is empty, and nothing is taking up space, I have lots of room in which to fill. And I will fill it with myself if you do not start replacing me again with the things that I have just removed."

It is not he abandoning us. It is simply his way

of making space for more of himself. We need to recognize this longing in the heart of God as it presents itself through loneliness, sadness etc.

Since we are created in God's image it is easy to mistake one another as the fulfillment that we are searching for. Sadly enough we find out later down the line after we have invested years into someone or something else that we are still empty.

People always mistake people or things for that nagging feeling of needing to be in the center. If only we knew that the King of the universe is waiting to promote you into the kingdom as a joint-heir. All we need to do is lay it all down and respond in prayer, praise and the word.

Romans 8:24 talks about hope. I believe that it is saying that if we continue to groan with hope, we will receive the manifestation of groaning. This visible fruit is what we have been fully expecting all along. The word *wait* in that reference means (to fully expect.)

Also one of the most encouraging things is found in verse twenty-six. It tells us that the spirit is helping us. In other words, it is assisting us, becoming a partner with us. The next thing that really grabs my imagination is found in verse twenty-six. The word tells us that the spirit maketh intercession for us with words that cannot be uttered. To say it cannot be uttered means that there are no words that are comparable. This is a heavenly communication that earth cannot interpret.



Chapter Three

Our Groan Can be Godly or Carnal

From time to time God himself would come visit the earth so to speak. When Cain killed Abel his blood cried out from the ground. This was a cry for justice because the law of God had been broken. God answered this cry and dealt with Cain. Again when men built the tower of Babel, the Lord said *let us go down*. He confounded their language and scattered them. When Sodom overflowed with wickedness God said “I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it. He grabbed Lot and rained down fire on that wicked city. In Exodus 2:24 it says “And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Jacob. Then verse twenty-five tells us “*And God looked upon the children of Israel and God had respect unto them.*” He delivered them with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Brother, no one can stand when God’s mighty hand is accompanied by his outstretched arm.

All these stories take a form of a cry or groan that captures Gods attention his allegiance and sometimes his anger. But with Israel in Egypt, he had respect unto their cry.

Wouldn’t you love him to hear your groan and have respect unto you as He did Israel? There is a cry of wickedness that God responds to and there is

a cry of the needy that God answers. But the groan we are going to learn about is a groan that will bring the Father back to earth to end the Antichrist spirit and began the reign of his Son.

This groan will capture the full face of God and will consume all the earth and everything in it. Those who are groaning with heart, soul and body are going to join the groaning chorus of the universe and be marked by God, as were the men in the book of Ezekiel that had the mark of God on their forehead. They were crying out for the abominations in the land. Let's discover the meaning of this scripture. You will find it in Ezekiel 9:4.

And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh (the translation of sigh here is groan) and that cry (cry also means groan) for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

This scripture indicates a time when the spirit of God will make a distinction that will forever change the face of all mankind. The prophet Ezekiel then describes what happens to those not marked. It is a horrific vision. Remember that this is done in the city of Jerusalem, or the house of God. For this is the city that God has chosen to put his name there. The prophet hears God give a command "Slay utterly old and young, maids and little

children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary.” While they were destroying, it was such a bloody scene that Ezekiel falls on his face and cries out, “Lord are you going to destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?” The Lord answers him that the sin is great and He will not spare or have pity.

This is a serious warning to those who choose not to get into the battle. I don’t want to be among the slain of the Lord. These people are not slain by the devil. God himself sends out the angels to destroy. It reminds me of the story in 2nd Samuel where the angel was taking a slaughter of Israel because of the sin of David in numbering the people. It was a terrible time of death and destruction for Jerusalem. And as the angel of the Lord was standing on the very spot that would one day occupy the temple, David made a sacrifice to the Lord and the plague was stopped. So we see the judgment of God on his people in his house over and over. We will either groan for the things that God is grieved over or we will grieve our own losses because of our rebellion, or worse lose our lives and our soul.

When the Bible speaks of Lot in that corrupt city of Sodom the word says that the heart of that righteous man was vexed from day to day. It’s not enough to keep your life intact; we must go beyond that and fulfill a universal and eternal purpose. We must not only groan, but we must leave Sodom. This Sodom is all around us and some of it sadly

has found a place in us. When we see the gross sin in others we must remember that the magnifying glass is also scrutinizing us. To stay in Sodom is to be inflicted with the judgment that is sure to come. Groan until Christ is formed in you. Leave Sodom and look for a city whose builder and maker is God.

As Jesus prayed, “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” He was groaning for the manifestation of that prayer. He also had the same intensity when he asked the Father for us to be one with him and the Father, as He and the Father were one. There must come a time when our full attention is drawn to that exclusive thing that God is saying. And become one with the cry, the groan, the desire of God and his universe.

I am sure that if we do not find the heart of God in this hour and respond to it in the way that would be pleasing to him, we will miss it altogether. Can you continue to live your life full of entertainment and self-advancement when your nearest and dearest friend is in mourning over the loss of the things that He has held dear? What kind of friend would party on when death was all around him? Just because it has not yet been your father or child does not mean that you will go without loss.

How arrogant we are in America. Two thirds of the world goes to bed hungry. Most of the billions of the world’s population have never heard the name of Jesus. On one of my overseas trips I asked a man if he had heard of Jesus and He told me he didn’t know him but I could ask around and someone there might direct me to him. It is a shame

to the church of our age that everyone has not heard. We can blame foreign governments, false religions and anything else. But the truth is twelve men turned the world upside down without the use of television, radio or printed materials. I ask you sincerely. With all the things at our disposal we have we not been concerned enough about the harvest. It isn't just money that gets the job done, it's sold out lives.

I often wonder what it will take to get us to the place of travail. I believe that it will take a vision of hell to produce the groan that God desires. So I pray for the church to see a burning hell and realize that most of our friends and relatives are going there. Could it be that we are so self-absorbed and have a false sense of security ourselves that we are totally unaware of the imminent destruction that awaits most of humanity. Charles Spurgeon was called the prince of preachers. This great orator said, "If you have no fervency to see souls saved, then you are not saved yourself."

He is my joy and the more I experience this suffering world that has chosen false gods to serve, the more thankful and joyful I become, knowing that there is a way out. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to rescue a soul from eternal damnation in hell. Nothing causes my heart to sing like feeling his pleasure on me when I do his will. I am thrilled, excited and overwhelmed at so great a love. But there is a cry being poured out from the very heart of all creation and that is the subject of this book.

We on earth are now in the throes of death. Israel is defending itself and by doing so it is abstractly defending us. We are in a post 9/11 era and things are falling down quicker than we could have ever imagined.

But if you are waiting for the first atom bomb to fall in order to feel the grief, then you may be too late to make a difference. It doesn't matter if you are just a better Father, a better citizen or even a good Christian. If you are living a fanciful life waiting for more blessings while the ship is slowly sinking than you are in deep trouble.

If the ship could be repaired than you should catch it before it is sunk. But we blindly go on thinking that it is Israel's problem not ours. Or it is the inner cities problem and it doesn't affect us. My daughter had a dream just shortly before I preached my sermon "The Titanic." (We have this sermon available on C.D.)

We were in a boat that was likened unto the titanic. It was slowly sinking. Meanwhile passengers, knowing that it was sinking, still carried on with their daily lives. Some were buying tee shirts so as not to get sunburn while in the water after the ship sunk. There was no reality check about the coming disaster even though they knew the sinking of the ship was on the way. Finally a group of us (ministers included,) were down stairs and were leaning over the tables and sleeping. Rebekah looked out the window and saw that the water was covering two-thirds of the window. She knew she only had a minute to get out. There was

no time to awaken the others. She only had enough time to break the window and get out. She was thinking, “if only we had prepared, if only we had paid attention to what was going on and where the shore was. If we had just taken advantage of the lifeboats...” But now it was too late.

This is the condition of America today. All the signs of destruction are there and still we continue in our comfort zones. I ministered two days before 9/11 about an event that was soon to take place. I told them that it was only a few hours away. Still they did not hear. I have preached that the United States of America will one day be nuked and natural disasters would finish the job. Terrible earthquakes and floods are coming upon us. Still we do not groan.



Chapter Four

The Pain That Brings Gain

We read about the women in labor in John 16:20-22

Vs.20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, that ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

Vs.21 A woman when she is in travail, hath sorrow because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.

Vs.22. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

John 16:20 says that we will weep and lament. And who does it say will do the rejoicing? The world will rejoice. But it says our sorrow will be turned into joy. It continues in verse twenty-one to describe how a woman feels that is in travail. It is not a fun time folks. For most women they say you

come very close to death at that time. All my pregnancies and deliveries were most difficult. Each had its dynamic of pain and danger, especially my second and third. My second child was breech and I had a caesarian. The labor lasted more than a day. My third child, a girl took three days to make her arrival. I truly felt close to death, the closer the delivery came. I even began to hallucinate. I can't believe it when I hear the rare stories of women who felt little or no pain. I jokingly want to tell them that they cannot begin to relate to real labor.

But the word describes the joy that accompanies the birth after the pain is over. I can tell you that it is immediate. There is very little pain after the birth. You go from such a tremendous feeling of pain and suffering to complete joy and relief. And he continues in verse twenty-two to tell us that now is the time for sorrow, but oh when we see him we will rejoice and no man can ever take it away. One of the benefits of Jesus leaving in the first place is to bring forth the groan.

While he was walking the earth, the disciples came very close to understanding the completeness that we will one-day share. But when He left us it was with a promise and a command. We are to go into all the world and preach the gospel and we are to pray for harvesters to go out. These spiritual births must be travailed forth just as the natural ones are. The church has lost the travail of yesteryear. I can assure you that the Holy Spirit still causes humans that are in deep prayer to groan and push.

That great missionary K.P. Yohannan has

reached thousands and has raised up more indigenous evangelist than any one man that I know of. His sentiments have been known to be along these lines of thinking: If hell is real, (after reading the bible he became convinced of it,) then there is a real dilemma. Since it is real then almost everyone we pass everyday is going there. He realized that he must give every breath, every rupee (Indian money) every waking moment to try and stop as many as possible from going there. (Everyone should get one of his books, especially, Road to reality and Revolution in world missions.) He went on to raise up many who have given their whole lives to this cause. You can bet that someone who cares little for himself and so much for a lost world is in prayer groaning for the lost.

I remember the first time I heard groaning in prayer. A friend of mine had come to Florida to visit and she asked me if I would like to pray, and of course I was thrilled to. After a few minutes of intense prayer, she began to groan. She was on her elbows and knees. I recognized the sound and feeling for it was exactly what you hear when a woman is in transition, that brief period of time before the baby crowns.

I didn't know how to relate to this because I had never heard someone respond in prayer to the spirit in this manner. It sounded like a woman having a baby and I could understand the concept of bringing something out of the spirit into the physical realm but this was new. I went to the Lord in prayer and made a request of him. My first

request was that I would have this anointing also. My second request was to hear from someone within two days that I had not talked to in years. I did not specify whom.

So the next day I asked her if we could pray together. So we went into the prayer room at church. After a few minutes of deep prayer, I yielded myself to the Lord by allowing a process of groaning prayer. I can't say he took me over although sometimes he does. I more or less began to try it out. I felt that the Lord was pleased and went home asking the Lord to now reveal to me that it was of him by answering my second fleece. The next day the phone rang and a friend of mine that I had not heard from in years was on the other line. It seems she was no longer with the Lord and was now working in bars. She had recently gone through a divorce and now had cancer. Her calling me for prayer after so many years was a true sign that my groan had yielded fruit. She made arrangements to fly down and see me. I spoke with her about the Lord and prayed with her. A few weeks later I found out that they were able to get all of the cancer and now 30 years later she is a tireless worker for the Lord. She has many souls to her credit.

Jesus was the outward display of the Father and when he left, it was no longer an outward system, there was no physical Jesus to see and touch and hear. So this need of communication and intimacy took a different form. It went into the womb of the church, it grew and was birthed. It is now visible again, but only through his human

agents or as the bible calls it, vessels. That is why the bible says that we have this treasure in earthen vessels. The treasure is Jesus and we are the earthen vessels. Just as He divided the loaves and the fishes to where two fish became many and a few loaves became much, so now his presence has been extended through us. Instead of one Jesus walking in Israel, we have him in all of these earthen vessels called saints of God.

Each generation has the responsibility to birth in the new believers of their time. This continues the process down to the next generation. Without these new births society would end. We are the light of the world, without us the world would already have been plunged into darkness and destruction. When I read John 16:23 I began to see what Jesus was saying when he told us to realize we were in travail. This form of prayer causes us to have a clear pathway to the Father. We no longer have to go through a priest. God wanted this direct communication, so the Son made the provision for it. The scripture reads as follows.

*And in that day ye shall
ask me nothing verily,
verily, I say unto you,
whatsoever Ye shall ask
the Father in my name, He
will give it you.*

The outcome would produce a people who would not ask Jesus in the same way as we did

when he was on this earth. But we could now go to the Father ourselves in his name. As we cleanse ourselves and become available to the Lord we can be ushered into the throne room and ask the Father himself in the name of his Son.

Do you see the difference? We can reach God directly because of our connection with the Son. Because of the blood of Jesus that cleanses us from all unrighteousness. Yes, he intercedes for us, and all the wonderful things he has promised. But the veil was rent that was between the Father and us. The veil was the flesh of Jesus. It was torn but it still hung there. We go through the torn curtain or the blood and flesh of the crucified Lord, and into the Holy of Holies, or the throne room of the Father. Oh precious Jesus what a privilege you purchased for us at Calvary.

Now we can fellowship with his suffering. We can mourn or weep and birth souls into the kingdom. We can make the way plain before all men so that they too may go into the throne room. Yes we may sorrow now but a man-child will be born. Jesus will be born into the hearts of the heathen of this world. The Bible says, "*Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.*" Could this be the man-child of revelations? The birthing of Jesus through the sold out church who carries him everywhere they go. Is this what Paul meant when he said, "*I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you?*" We must develop him in full stature if we hope to be the sons of God that are being formed. The Bible calls it "*the fullness of the*

stature of Jesus Christ.” Until the womb of the church develops a full term Gospel we will continue to give birth to premature babies. Many of them will not make it.

So let's read our scripture in John. It says she (the women giving birth,) *remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.* He is born by our groan. He is birthed in the heart of mankind because of our travail. Hallelujah!

We do not always know in the natural what we are giving birth to. It could be a boy or a girl. In the spirit, there are many more things that we give birth to and like in the natural we are not always aware of the substance of our prayers. But we are birthing things as we spend time in his presence and travail before him. Some of this knowledge is held in reserve until his time to reveal it. I know from experience that when I spend seasons in prayer it comes to light when I preach or minister. Suddenly my heart is more aware of direction and what he wishes to reveal to his people. These great things are created in secret but one day they will all be displayed before a groaning people as he turns their sorrow into joy.

The desire to be so close to him that we feel his very heart, should cause us to desire to fulfill 1st Corinthians 9:27. *I keep under* (To hit under the eye, to disable, and subdue) *my body and bring it into subjection* (to be a slave driver to the flesh, to enslave it.) *Lest that by any means when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.* (Unapproved, rejected, worthless.)



Chapter Five

Agreement With the Creation

*Romans 8:19 For the earnest expectation Of
the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the
sons of God.*

This scripture describes the purpose of the groan. The first part of it talks about a people that fully expect and await a day that a group of end time believers will be manifested. It will be shown to a waiting church and played out before a rebellious world. These are no ordinary Sunday morning Christians. They will not be those who have used Jesus as a life enhancement. It's not for those who want to hang on to their entertainment, their joy of fun and games, nor to those who have not learned to crucify their flesh. This will be a people with one focus, whose eyes are single to the glory of God.

They are waiting and looking and committing all their energy into producing the sons of God. I don't know how massive this army will be but they, like their predecessors will turn the world upside down with their preaching and demonstration of the power of God.

This scripture tells us that these sold out ones

are expecting earnestly. Again let us use this as an analogy of a pregnancy. At first we cannot see what is growing inside and sometimes it takes several months for it to be apparent. I remember wanting to experience feeling the baby right away. So I lay down on a hard floor with my stomach directly pressing against it. Sure enough I could feel a little hard ball. Then came my second appointment with the doctor. I'll never forget hearing for the first time that heartbeat. I tell you it makes you cry. You don't know why your crying you just can't help yourself. It seems incredible to you that a life is actually growing inside. I can tell you that I was earnestly expecting. I could hardly think of anything else. Every new sign of life was a step closer to seeing the revealed secret. In those days we did not know what we were getting. It was one of two things we knew that much. We imagined what he or she would look like. I was waiting for the manifestation of the son or daughter that God would present to me. The expectancy grew with each new sign of life. As the size of the baby grew I knew it was not far away. It was comforting to feel the movement. But it remained a mystery until the day it would be revealed.

So it is now. We are beginning to sense the wind of the Holy Spirit. We don't know where it is coming from or where it is going we only know that it feels wonderful and as we get closer, there are more and more signs. We feel it can't be far away now. It's like when a rain is on its way. First, it seems that the temperature drops, and then we begin

to feel the breeze pick up a bit. We look up and see that the clouds are getting darker and full of water. We know that at any moment it will pour down. Women rush out to their clotheslines to get the laundry down. People make sure all the windows on the car are closed etc. There is a time for preparation. I always hated the way it rains in Florida. You can leave the house and it can be a clear day. And right in the middle of shopping or running around, here comes the rain. It's too late to run home and make sure everything is taken care of.

We must prepare now. We must make sure our garments are taken care of. The rain could come at any time and catch us unaware. We must ask God to judge us now. Seek him diligently about the condition of our heart. Let him reveal to you the secret places that you do not know about. Remember that with God we cannot claim ignorance. His door is open at all times and we can know what we want to know. There is coming a day that he will judge the world in righteousness and if the believer scarcely makes it in where will the unbeliever stand. This is scripture. We are all going to give account on judgment day. We want to make sure we have done all we can to be pure. If we fall on the rock we will fall into pieces but if the rock falls on us it will grind us to powder. Don't wait for the hammer to fall. **Let him judge you now.** You may crumble as you throw yourself upon the rock. Self-revelation can be painful, but in your crumbling process you will become more acquainted with the rock. The small pieces of your

life lie on top and become a part of the rock itself. He is that rock. Praise his name for all things work together for good.

When you are fully expecting, nothing else captures your attention for very long. Nor does anything else come close to grabbing your imagination. I think God gave us imagination because it helps us with our expectation. You can hardly go through life without it; young girls dream of their wedding day, young boys dream of their first car. When you become a parent you see your children grown and serving God. Maybe you think they will Pastor or even be a doctor. All of this feeds our expectation. One thing is for sure. When you are earnestly expecting Jesus to show up. When you've waited and prayed for so long, you are overjoyed as each new indication of his presence is revealed. So I imagine what the fullness of his joy will bring. He said it would be joy unspeakable and full of glory.

I imagine Jesus coming through the clouds on a white horse, anxious to get his bride. I imagine my home in heaven, what will it be like to see my daughter who is with the Lord (she died at 21 with cystic fibrosis.)) All of these things help my expectancy level. Jesus knew this and that is why he told so many parables. These word pictures can drive home an understanding and hope, as little else will.

When you are expecting company, you look out the door when you hear voices. Maybe you look out the window when a car goes by. You fully

expect to see them and you seem to be able to hear their voices. The excited moment comes and you actually see them, hear them and hug them. This is the state that we must live in.

We are fully expecting to see this army of God rise up out of the ashes of a lost religious system. We know a great move of God is coming. But my friend you must be visiting this on a constant basis. We must prepare for company; we clean the house and make preparation for food. When having a baby you fix the nursery just right. You get the clothes ready, your suitcase is packed, and you prepare yourself as much as possible.

In this case you are not waiting for someone else to change and be brought into the manifestation of the sons of God. You are watching yourself to make sure you are growing and clean. You look for more words from the Lord, more dreams, and visitations. You pray for the sick and believe for miracles. All this while staying in close union with him who has the power to make you into what you need to be. A woman wants to be perfect for her wedding. She would not want one spot on her gown. Lets tie all this together with some of the most important scriptures of this book.

Romans 8:22 for we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Vs.23 And not only they, but we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of

our body.

Vs.26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities for we know not what we should pray for as we ought but the Spirit maketh intercession for us with groanings that cannot be uttered.

This scripture expands from us waiting, to the whole of creation. And it (the creation) is not a casual onlooker. No my friend it is in travail, for the great moment is at hand. It is groaning and travailing in pain together. One of the meanings here for the word groaning is “to be in straits.” That means there is no way out. Ask any woman who has ever been deep into labor what it is like. I am sure she will tell you that she wishes she could check out of her body if even for a few minutes. But this is impossible. She is in straits. There is no place to go but forward. This is the position of the creation at this time. This is also the position of the true repentant body of believers who never take their attention away from the task at hand. The disciples always viewed their time here as a temporary place with much work to do. They called themselves pilgrims on this earth. But they were busy pilgrims.

The whole earth is groaning in travail together. Even creation has a DNA that tells it where it should be. The creation was once so perfect, pristine and ready to be lived in. But like so many things we possess, it gets worn down in time. So we have worn down the purity of earth with our sin. It is the sin of the people who have degraded this great

earth. The creation was a servant to us to give us a wonderful life and we have defiled it. It longs to be pure and holy again. That is why strange diseases are cropping up out of nowhere. That is why there are earthquakes in divers (different places.) Why has nature gone crazy? We can thank the sin nature of man for that outcome. We have corrupted this beautiful planet with our love for things and pleasures. The earth is puking us up. Yes, the hurricanes, the volcanoes, the heat waves and freak storms are Gods creation in rebellion against ungodliness. These manifestations are the groan of earth desiring to cleanse itself. You may think that these are just natural phenomenon. If this is your present way of thinking then you my friend are part of the problem. We always want to give another explanation other than the one needed. We are a fallen creation and we have in the process taken the earth down with us. That is why the creation still retains its DNA. Without its own opinion, the creation knows the will of God so it does not reason its way out; it remains committed to Gods original plan. And the completion of that plan will get even more apparent as time goes by. Places that are usually very wet will become dry and vice a versa. The economies will drastically change. Even the appearance of the earth's continents will shift.

You're going to hear more and more about strange weather. With all of mans devices; he still cannot rightly predict what the weather will do next. The enemy of all mankind knows that if he can cause the death of millions before they have a

chance to hear the gospel than he is all the more excited. He desires to cause pain to God, and what better way than to cause that which God loves most to reject him.

I've lived in Florida for most of my years on earth and I can tell you first hand that we have never seen anything on the scale of the last few hurricane seasons. Scientist's even tell us that many new plant diseases have been recently discovered. Also the animal kingdom is out of control. Animals are doing things that are totally out of their usual character. It would seem that man has eliminated all God's order and mankind has tried to take dominion and has made a mess of it. But don't worry one day God will take back what is his. And it won't be long now.



Chapter Six

The Groan of the Spirit

We will continue this thought from Romans eight. Verse twenty-three includes humans into the groaning scenario along side of the creation. We also desire this mortality to put on immortality. We know the only way to complete the job is to have this transformation. We want our body to be adopted. We already have the first fruits of the spirit. He is living in us; this is our first proof of his purchase. In other words in the spirit of a born again on fire Christian, is the presence of the living God. He has now adopted us into the kingdom of his dear Son. However our bodies don't quite get the picture.

It still desires and craves things that weaken the resolve of the spirit. The first fruits are the manifestation of things that have been accomplished when Jesus first came to make his abode with us. So the spirit fights the flesh and the flesh fights the spirit. This causes the willing spirit to groan. Paul said, "When I would do good, evil is present with me." He concluded, "O wretched man that I am." This is the groan.

To reach our full potential something must be done to the body but what? Until we are adopted we must continue to put it to death. This takes us

back to my opening statement. The devil wants to stop the groan so he feeds it. He knows the human nature well. Satan is always coming up with new entertainment, newer gadgets and toys, new pleasures. He makes you feel that you must have these things. And so we fall into the trap of pursuit. We pursue the unreachable dream. We sell our time into a business or job so that we can buy, buy, buy. And there is no end to it. We need a new house so we sign up for another thirty years of hard labor. Meanwhile we get deeper into debt so we can fill this house with things. Before you know it your time is over.

I remember when I was about 23; I was working as a nurse's aid in a local hospital. There was a woman in the hospital having test run. She and her husband were in their early sixties. They had worked all their lives to raise their family, buy luxuries and keep up with the Jones. Now their dream had come true. They sold everything and bought a home in Florida. Now they could live another fifteen years or so just having fun together. It had been less than a year and here she was in the hospital. Her friends came in and they began to reason that perhaps there was nothing to it. Maybe she just had a small cough etc. She began to feel lighter and was waiting for a positive outcome. I was there when the doctor came in with the test results, terminal cancer. I left at this point. It was too sad.

The devil knows how to feed that empty feeling, to stifle the small voice in you that cries out for

something more. You chase a dream and when you finally think you've caught it, it is gone or leaves you unsatisfied. The devil can even feed you through the ministry. You feel so important and needed and meanwhile you neglect the relationship factor. You delete the fact that only he can fit that place, not ministry, not things, not people. When you feel the void don't go to the refrigerator, go to him. When you feel despair, don't go to the bottle, go to Jesus. He causes us to groan, and only he can truly fill us.

In verse twenty-six of Romans eight, we find that the spirit is there to guide us in the groan. We mentioned this earlier in this booklet. God will not leave us all alone to figure out these things that are too hard for us. He has left us a friend, a comforter, a teacher and a guide. In this reference he even volunteers to take over the groan if we will step out of the way. For this universal groan that is birthing forth the last and final product (i.e. the sons of God,) is too important to leave in the hands of a flawed and mortal people. He will take on the job himself if we will enter in to a deeper fellowship with his suffering. He is working and we are working. It is a joint effort. And not only us but all of creation is entering into it.

We must understand that if we try to feed our desires with the world we will fall under condemnation. To reach out and fulfill our heart with others is spiritual adultery. When you read Ezekiel you find God talking to Israel as a whore who has sold herself and slept with all the countries

around her. She has committed whoredom with their gods and with their riches. It gets very descriptive. This is the way God feels when he tries to draw us through our longings and we prostitute ourselves out to all the distractions that the devil so freely offers. He will cause you to stop the groan by fulfilling it with something other than that which God has ordained. This act is adultery. It is evil because you are birthing your desires and the move of God is not birthed because the groan has stopped and you are distracted. These are serious days.

As verse twenty-seven says, only the Holy Spirit can search the heart and know what is in the mind of the Father and he makes intercession according to the will of God.

Spiritual Adultery and Idolatry

To commit adultery by selling yourself for the pleasures of this life is no different than bowing down before a stone god in place of Jehovah God. We idolize the look on our neighbor's face as he sees that we possess the newest gadget. We idolize the look of admiration on others that look at us with a sigh "if only I had that." We are full of idols and they all stop the groan. We sit back comforted while Lazarus sits outside our gates, suffering with hunger and pain. One day we may find ourselves on the other side of luxury and comforts, desiring just a drop of what these sold out ones have purchased with their holiness to the Lord.

Abraham looked over at the rich man and said, "Remember that in your day you were comforted

and he (Lazarus) was tormented. Now he is comforted and you are in torment.” This is the fate of all who pass by a world dying without food, water, a roof over their heads and worse of all, without Jesus.

Jesus said, “How can you call me Lord, Lord and do not the things I say?”

Recently a man in Idaho sold all his earthly goods and gave it to missionaries in Africa. Then supernaturally, stones of emeralds, and rubies and diamonds began to appear. He has not yet sold them but you can bet where the money will go when he does. He feels the groan, and does something with it to make a difference.

Along these lines I recently read of a retired gentleman who likewise sold all that he had and sent his money to buy a Jesus film in the language of India. Last report was that over 300,000 or more had already seen the film and many of them had made a decision for Christ. And it’s not over yet. Can you imagine his reward when he gets to heaven?

Or like the mother who ran two businesses. Through these she saved enough money after raising her children alone, to have them trained and sent to the mission field. She is their sole support. This is what the groan produces. About now many of you are running to your bank account and embracing it with the thought “Please Lord don’t ask this of me.” If you knew the reward that comes with releasing all you own you would always keep your heart and your wallet open to the voice of God.

The whole creation groaneth (to jointly experience a common calamity, to be in companionship with others groaning, pray audibly with grief) *and travaileth in pain together until now.*

Even we ourselves groan within (give yourself wholly to.) *Waiting* (to expect fully, look for, and separate as pulling away from other activity) *for the adoption.*

Romans 8:25 is saying that our hopeful groaning is patient and the word *wait* there means to fully expect. We can be patient because we fully expect the delivery of that which our tears and labor have purchased.



Chapter Seven

We Agree With the Prisoners

Many are held captive today. There are whole societies that are given over to brutality. Many countries in Africa alone have known great suffering. All this, while a western world looks on. There are thousands of Christian converts in the Sudan for instance that are being tortured in the most gruesome fashion. Mothers have their breast cut off, Fathers are tortured and so are children, all this in an attempt to convert Christians to Islam. The Christians there are asking, where are our brothers and sisters? Many martyrs spilt their blood to bring the truth to these people and now we desert them in this horrible blood bath.

Psalms 79:11 Let the sighing
(groaning) of the prisoner come
before thee:: according to the
greatness of thy power preserve thou
those that are appointed to die.

We read here how we are to respond to this sort of thing. This verse talks about the sighing of the prisoner. This word sighing means groaning. Here the writer of this Psalm is saddling up next to the

prisoner that is sighing, “Yes, Lord, hear the cry of these prisoners.” He is groaning and feeling the need as if it was his own. Because according to scripture it is his own. We are one body with the same need. Not a disjointed body that is unaffected by the pain of the others. He went a little further and asked God to even spare those who have been appointed to death. So not only is he in agreement with the prisoner that is suffering but also those who are appointed to the death squad

If our attention is always on the blessing and not on *Him* the one who is able to bless, than we are falling into selfishness and are disconnecting with the heart of God. I’m not saying we should go around with a frown and depression. I am merely pointing out that we should find joy as an intercessor that we are able to come into agreement for them that the Father of all good gifts can extend comfort and love in the darkest places and then give a way of escape. But even if they are not released, they have the comfort of knowing that the rest of Christendom is in prison with them.

We continue to believe for the release of those appointed to die. Their name is on the death list; they are in a holding cell waiting for death. Such is the fate of those who have cancer or some other terminal disease. So is the case of those who have a tortured existence because of their faith. They know that at anytime, the KGB will knock down the door and take their life. And then again we are all in a holding tank waiting for the release of the spirit. And now the world is imprisoned by a

radical group of murderers, who believe that in the name of their god they will kill, imprison and torture all that stand in the way of world domination. The devil has a desire in these last days to take as many down with him as he can, so he will kill the opposition or take it prisoner until submission is accomplished. This tactic has proven successful since the beginning of time. Communism succeeded for many years in this indoctrination, as did Romanism and any other conquering army down through history.

But this battle is unlike any other in history. This is the last battle for men's souls. It is a fight to the finish. At some point the Antichrist will bring a short time of peace and then the fury of God will be unleashed. At that point the trumpet will sound. So as I understand it, we have a short space of time between now and the end of world war three. We will see the release of the true Sons of God that will be born out of deep travail and will make a last attempt with signs, wonders and miracles to set the prisoners free.

Then and only then will the Antichrist take control and usher in the book of Revelations. And many will wash their robes in the blood of the Lamb, some through martyrdom and some in great glory, in either of these cases the will of man must be laid down and the cross taken up.

The prisoner that groans will have a groaning church travailing with them. Those marked for death will have a groaning intercessory prayer band riding alongside. The earth will groan the saints will

groan and the glory will be brought down. God must answer the cry and he will you can be sure of that.

We read some unusual passages concerning the groan in John 11: 33 & 38.

When Jesus therefore saw her weeping and the Jews also weeping which came with her, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled,

Vs.38 Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

We know that the Bible tells us that death is the last enemy that is to be conquered. In these passages Jesus himself is groaning. The word says that when Jesus saw Mary and the Jews weeping because of the death of Lazarus, he groaned. Again it says that the people wondered that Jesus had not come before the death and brought life to his friend. Again we read that Jesus groaned. Could this also give us a key to the groan of creation?

Do we not realize that Jesus has come as life to the world and people still weep in a lost condition? That they still question why he did not do something about the problem before it got to be unchangeable. He knew that he was the producer of life and still they did not recognize the hour that belonged to their peace, as the Bible puts it. It continues to say; "Now it is hidden from your

eyes.”

Yes, we groan that those locked in prisons of death have not received the message of hope. That’s why we groan that he might spare those who are marked for death. Jesus still groans today and so does the sons who are groaning for the Lord’s arm to be revealed.



Chapter Eight

The Clothing That is Produced by the Groan

2nd Corinthians 5:2 & 5:4

*For this we groan, earnestly desiring
to be clothed upon with our house which
is from heaven*

*For we that are in this tabernacle do
groan, being burdened: not for that we
would be unclothed, but clothed upon,
that mortality might be swallowed up
of life.*

A lot is said in this chapter from 2nd Corinthians. It begins in verse one. It tells us that if these bodies die we have another body not made with hands that are eternal and dwelling in heaven. And verse two explains that this is why we groan. We earnestly desire this eternal clothing that is from heaven. Most people are perfectly happy to continue here on earth and reap as many benefits as possible from this meager existence. Not so with the groaning group who will not be satisfied with the meager fare of earth.

Then in verse 4 we read that we desire to be clothed so we will not be found naked. Why do

carnal people feel so much of the time that they have it made? They are covered with a thin piece of flesh that can be so easily destroyed. That is why these fleshly bodies need so many contraptions to surround and protect them. They need houses, cars, and other buildings to exist in. But the groaning ones know that unless they have obtained a home eternal in the heavens they will be found naked.

The groaning will produce heavenly clothing. The bible talks of three different types of garments that will be worn in heaven. It tells of white robes, white garments and white linen.

We read in verse four the continuation of this thought. It says in essence that we are burdened. And we groan not so we can die or be unclothed, but it's the eternal life or immortal garments that we so desire. My friend when is the last time that you looked forward to being in a body that does not rot in a grave? In other words you are looking for a day of reward that has been produced by an obedient, prayerful and holy people who care more for the paradigm of eternity than they do of an earthly view. We live for what can benefit the future. God's future!

Verse ten and eleven are the clinchers here. And this is a good place to end my book. I will quote it for you.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done whether it be good or bad.

Vs 11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men: but we are made manifest unto God: and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

Earlier in this chapter we were referring to those who desired to go into that eternal state. Here it warns us that Christ will one-day judge us. Can you imagine standing in the arena of the once dead. Those who have lived from Adam, to Caesar, to Paul and Hitler, they will all be there. Every man woman boy and girl that has ever lived or died will be in the courtroom on that day. And you too will be there. When our name is called, the books will be opened and our life will be displayed for all the world to see.

That is why I plead with you to keep the searchlight on your heart. Let him judge you now so that he may call you a good and faithful servant. Everything we think, feel and do is made manifest to Christ and it should also be made manifest in our conscience. Recently I was in prayer and I asked the Lord to let me feel him and shower me with his

presence. Now let me say here that this is not an evil prayer or desire, he delights in doing just that. But he was checking my priority level. He said simply “when did this become about me ministering to you?” I realized he was telling me that I was to enter into prayer constantly in order to minister to him and as a result there would be times of his awesome presence, not to mention visions, dreams and revelations. But all these things will pass away. What will remain is the times we did everything in order to serve the king of glory. Our motives must line up.

And so all these things will be revealed at that last day. Much of what we do or say will have been out of the wrong motives and it will be wood, hay and stubble. The groaning that we feel when we are lost in his presence isn't always a feeling of desperation, many times I have groaned out of pure joy. It was the greatest feeling in the world. I don't know what I was giving birth to, but I was so pleased that he used me to do it. Friends let's groan until Christ is manifest and the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our God and of his Christ. And he shall reign forever and ever

This groan as I see it is not an option it's a must. This groan will take us out of the ordinary and into the extraordinary. It helps us subdue our flesh, our earth. In Genesis 1:26 Adam was told, (even before he fell,) to subdue the earth. We were created from the dust of the earth. This same dust needs subduing. The physical earth is not in rebellion with God. Only our flesh our earth is in

opposition to the Lord's plan.

The groan helps us to be fruitful. In Genesis 2:8 Adam was commanded to be fruitful. We are not only to bear fruit but also to be a fruit tree. Our nature should be a fruit tree and what comes out of our nature should be the fruit. Fruit is always proof of the unity of the tree. We cannot bear fruit if we are not abiding in the vine so to speak. In the book of Peter we are given a list of things that we are to produce and if we produce these things we will never be barren or unfruitful.

When someone takes a bite out of our tree, it will declare what it's nature is. When our bark is removed, we bark. It's a little pun on words, but it is still true. The Bible says that the day will declare it. I think those days are here. Each day declares some imperfection. So we groan that God will continue to reveal to us where we need more crucifixion or pruning, so we can bear more fruit. We are to be an overcoming bride. Then the Lord will cleanse the earth and bring us back to rule and reign. You will notice that the bride is not going through this worldwide cleansing. Why? Because she has already allowed this to take place at her request.

The fact that we have a groan in us shows that there is a celestial part of God in us. The word says that when we die the spirit goes back to God who gave it. This part is recalled because at the termination of life we no longer need the conscience that was to guide us into perfection. This same spirit causes us to groan because we desire the complete celestial clothing in whole not in part. There has

always been something in us that feels the need to be lifted up. No one wants to be the wallflower, the person that is made fun of or the last one picked for the team. The hungry celestial soul desires more. We want to be elevated to where he is. The Bible says to remember from where we have fallen. And where is that place? It is where we once knew our creator and had enjoyed unbroken fellowship with him. Just like Adam who had walked in the cool of the evening with God. But after he fell this privilege was discontinued in that form.

This is when our spiritual candlestick fell. We were once enlightened by our intimacy with God. We were in the loins of Adam when he fell and we all fell with him. We also became disinherited in one form. Even Satan is jealous of the spot that he had been thrown out of. He had the most desired spot in heaven. He was the covering Cherub. His place was the closest one to the throne of God. He led all the rest of the creation in praise.

When Satan fell, Adam was created and given that spot. Then when Adam fell, that spot had to be bought back and there was now a price to be paid for entering into that place. Adam realized this deficit as he was ushered out of the garden and out of Gods presence. Adam and Eve were being lead from the garden and I believe that the fresh blood from the animal skin ran down the back of their legs, and while the skins were flapping against their body, the groan of regret must have been in their heart.

Just imagine if you can, being Adam, walking

by Eden and seeing the angel standing there with the flaming sword in his hand. Every time Adam passed by he was reminded of all that he had lost. In the garden was the complete fellowship he had once enjoyed. There had been such joy and peace, a complete absence of strife. He didn't even have to work a job. His job was producing worship and intimacy toward the creator. When he looked at that sword he must have been reminded of his failure. It's as if the sword said, "You blew it. " And our souls long for Eden, for God and for Home. To be elevated to where He is. Our sin is a reminder that we have lost something very precious.

And what did we exchange paradise for? We exchanged it for sickness, death and worst of all, the sins that lock us out of the garden. But the good news is that when we groan over our condition and repent and turn away, his blood covers us. And this time the blood is not running down our legs as we leave his presence. This time the blood is applied to our sin nature and we are once again allowed to enter into his garden.

So don't disallow the groan by feeding it with entertainment and pleasure. These things are a substitute for the pleasures that exist at his right hand. Don't sell out the garden to buy land that only contains thorns and thistles. To fight the conviction is to fight the groan. Conviction says, "You're being driven from the garden, stop now, apply the blood and come back."

Once you've lived in the garden, nothing else will do. We must see the groan as an invitation back

to the garden.

Paul talked about how a seed goes down in one body and comes up in another. It may have been planted in seed form but it come up in a tree or plant. You may run to the cross and go down a drug addict, an adulterer, or a liar. But you'll come up a Jesus addict, married to him, with truth being produced from that union. You'll go down in one body but you'll be raised up in a spiritual body. That is what the groan produces. No wonder the devil wants to stop this groan. Our spirit knows that the garment of praise is prepared and waiting. We know that the oil of joy is ready to be applied and the beauty that is restored will soon be apparent. The closer we get to the fulfillment the deeper we groan.

Jesus said 'I am the vine and my Father is the husbandman.' It's as if he's saying that it's our turn. "Now bring forth the fruit." This groan or deep desire manufactures fruit. It cannot help itself it is an automatic reaction. A full harvest awaits the completion of this groan. Every tree, every bird, every atom is anticipating the event.

This generation is going to step into some of this celestial glory. Our spirit has fallen, our candlestick has been knocked down and there is something in us that is laboring to lift it back up. The battle is between the celestial that desires to be in his presence and the flesh trying to keep it down.

The flesh tries to drown it out with loud music, entertainment and false hope. We look in the refrigerator time and time again, hoping that we will

find something to satisfy the hunger. It's not really hunger that is taking us to the icebox. It's not the new car, the new hair do or the latest fashion that we are searching for. It is that union with Jesus that seems fleeting because of the lack of depth. Romans 8:20 says, "*For the creature is made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who hath subjected the same in hope.*" So we become subject to vanity because he has given us a groaning hope that needs to be fulfilled. It is this void that causes us too reach out to things that are vain, but its real purpose is to cause us to reach out to him in hopes of obtaining the riches of his love. Inside the groan is hope. It knows that there is no other answer or salvation. So it hopes in what can only be birthed by the groan. We push until its no longer hope, but knowledge. Don't stop two groans short of completion.

As we progress we get a little clearer view of that celestial city, that new body that is being clothed upon by his nature. And the anticipation of it all just causes the groan to go deeper. And as we are reading this and getting revelation, I realize that there is something that our soul recognizes that our mind cannot comprehend. But I sense the trees of righteousness coming to fruition. Not the trees in Jude 1:12 that withers, but the trees in Revelation 22:2. These contain life and healing for the nations.

These roots go into the river of life as we read in Jeremiah 17:8. The same trees in Isaiah 61:3 and Proverbs 11:30 tell us that we bring life. Not to just ourselves but to the whole world. Psalms

104:16 says that the trees of the Lord are full of sap, Just like blood, this sap brings life to the tree. We are full of this life giving substance. And it was all produced because of the groan. Allow your voids, and empty feelings to drive you to the prayer closet. This is where we groan, this is where we grow and this is where all our desires are fulfilled. Don't ask amiss as the bible puts it. Ask him for the right ingredients in your prayer life. Get addicted to being in his garden. And you will never again desire the lesser things. May the Lord give you a strong revelation on how to fulfill the words of this book so that you too can be a part of the groaning creation.