



**Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.**

**Call In: 701-802-5360**

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[www.zionhill-mbc.org](http://www.zionhill-mbc.org).**

## **Zion Hill Baptist Church**

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Rev. Jimmy L. Gates, Sr., B.A., M.DIV., Pastor

**Sunday, June 28, 2020**



## **80<sup>th</sup> WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION**

**Theme: "Present Suffering Future Glory"**

### **Scripture:**

**Romans 8:18** - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

**Speaker:** Evangelist Bobbie Jo Curry  
Zion Hill Baptist Church

Sis. Candace Peavy, Chairperson  
Sis. Felicia Wright, Co-Chairperson

Rev. Jimmy L. Gates, Sr., B.A., M.DIV., Pastor

*Happy 80<sup>th</sup>*

*Women's Day Celebration  
to the  
Women of Zion Hill*

I did not know that Covid-19 and protests would be going on at this time, but God did. Our theme this year is **Theme: "Present Suffering Future Glory"** taken from Romans 8:18 - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. We believe that God is in control and His glory shall be revealed in us.

Looking forward to hearing from the Lord by our speaker, Evangelist Bobbie Jo Curry.

Thank you everyone for your support and encouragement and I would like to thank my Co-Chair, Sis. Felicia Wright. Thank you too Rev. Gates for allowing me to be chairperson for this year's Women's Day.

Be Blessed!

Sis. Candace Peavy, Chairperson

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Responsive Reading today** – Judges 15:9-20

### FROM THE PASTOR:

We will be going to support Greater Love's Church Anniversary on July 5, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

We are having a four (4) week Summer Camp beginning July 6 - July 31, 2020. Vacation Bible School will be the week of July 27, 2020, but times have not been finalized.

The church will be conducting massive in-depth cleaning during those days listed above. Please take your personal belongings home because we will begin to discard them on Monday July 6, 2020.

As of now we are coming back to the sanctuary on Sunday, July 12, 2020. We will have communion on our reopening. **If you are not feeling well, please stay home until you're better.**

## **FROM THE HEART OF THE PASTOR.....**

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” Romans 8:18

In our text, Paul wants us to understand two certainties and a practical conclusion that flows from them: First, the present time is marked by sufferings because of man’s fall into sin. Second, the future will be marked by glory for believers as God fulfills all His promises to us. The practical conclusion is, if we keep our eyes on the future promised glory, then we can endure present sufferings with perseverance and hope.

Paul mentions “the sufferings of this present time” (8:18). He was not referring to an especially difficult period in history, but to the entire present age. The whole history of creation since the fall is marked by suffering. The history of nations is marked by struggles and catastrophes, wars, natural disasters, internal conflicts, power struggles, and crimes. The history of individuals is also in large part a history of trials, the trials of growing up, figuring out what to do with your life, whom you will marry, rearing children, working through struggles in your marriage, providing for your needs, growing old and facing declining health and death.

I am certain, many ask the question, but why? Why do we suffer? How should we as Christians think about these difficult matters? Four observations:

### **A. THE WHOLE CREATION SUFFERS BECAUSE OF MAN’S FALL INTO SIN.**

“For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.”

Paul personifies creation groaning as it anxiously awaits the culmination of salvation for God’s people, because that will trigger the release from corruption to which all creation has been subject since Adam and Eve fell into sin. At that time, God’s judgment on Adam included a judgment on creation, the bible says, “Cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you.”

### **B. ALL BELIEVERS SUFFER BECAUSE OF MAN’S FALL INTO SIN.**

Paul himself suffered terribly. When he got saved, the Lord told Ananias the prophet whom He sent to open Paul’s eyes, “for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name’s sake.” Paul often mentions the trials that he endured, which would have driven most of us to despair. Our Lord Himself was a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. He came to this

world of suffering to bear our sins through His own suffering and death. So why should we think that somehow we will be exempt from suffering? In the sovereign purposes of God, some suffer more, and some suffer less. But none are exempt. It’s a part of living in this fallen world. This leads to a third observation:

### **C. WE NEED TO THINK BIBLICALLY ABOUT SUFFERING SO THAT WE WILL GROW THROUGH IT RATHER THAN BE DESTROYED BY IT.**

Note Paul’s opening phrase (8:18), “For I consider or reckon, ” The word means to think about, consider, or ponder. In other words, this paragraph is the result of Paul’s careful, biblical thinking about suffering. It’s important to think biblically about suffering because when it impacts you or those you love, you will be engulfed by a wave of powerful emotions. I’m not suggesting that you should suppress or deny your emotions, but I am saying that you need to process them through the grid of biblical truth, so that you are not devastated by your trials. Peter indicates that it is especially in a time of trials that the devil prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking to devour us. But we must resist him by being firm in our faith and by understanding the biblical perspective on trials.

### **D. THE FACT OF SUFFERING DOES NOT UNDERMINE THE FACT THAT GOD HAS A PLAN AND THAT HE WILL ACCOMPLISH HIS PLAN.**

Often people observe the terrible suffering in the world and doubt God’s love or His power. The argument is especially emotional when we consider little children suffering physical or sexual abuse or the horrible effects of war or natural disasters. We think, “It’s one thing if wicked people suffer such things, but how could a God of love and power allow these precious little children to suffer such things?” But Paul shows that such things stem directly from man’s fall into sin. As we saw in chapter 5, when Adam sinned, the whole human race sinned in him. If you say, “That’s not fair,” you’re on dangerous ground, to accuse the Sovereign God of being unfair! And you’re arrogantly implying that you would have done better than Adam did, so you don’t deserve to be penalized for his sin. So you’d best not accuse God of being unfair for imposing suffering on the human race because of sin. If you think that somehow the suffering in this world is out of proportion to what is deserved, then you do not grasp the infinite holiness of God or the unspeakable outrage of sin against this holy God. God’s judgment on the entire creation as seen in all of history’s horrible tragedies reveals how horrific our sin is to Him.

Yes, there is truth to, “**PRESENT SUFFERING, FUTURE GLORY**”, why because of Christ.

## **CONGRATULATIONS WOMEN OF ZION HILL**