

*Hope and Consummation: Romans 8:18-25*

*“If in this life only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable.”* Paul said this because of the abundance of misery that often accompanies the human condition; and he said it particularly for Christians.

The text appropriately sets the stage for his important discussion about earth’s ultimate destiny. First, he describes,

**1. *The Historic Condition of Earth’s “Broken Dream.”***

The earth must be viewed for what it is, a dying planet. This death is due to the spiritual bondage of earth. This bondage is a preeminent factor in earth’s decay, our moral, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

*In earth’s brokenness, there grows:*

**2. *The Universal Anticipation of a “Mislabeled Dream.”***

v.22, Like a woman in childbirth \_\_\_\_\_.

There are so many efforts mislabeled as dreams:

\_\_\_\_\_ dreams:

\_\_\_\_\_ dreams:

\_\_\_\_\_ dreams:

\_\_\_\_\_ dreams:

BUT Jesus said, *“The Meek will Inherit the Earth!”* This is our most realistic dream for the future!

*This reality leads us to:*

### ***3.The Cosmic Emancipation of the “Dream Reborn.”***

We are always in control if we believe:

**a.**

**b.**

**c.**

*Our destiny is to bring the planet into freedom, into privilege, liberty, independence, and the Lordship of Christ!*

### ***4.The Promised Fulfillment of the “Dream Consummated.”***

#### **Vv23-25**

*Note these realities:*

*The Holy Spirit sharpens our anticipation.*

*Our hope is our salvation from a planet in bondage.*

*We are now in a period of patiently waiting.*

Our ***“dream consummated”*** will bring us a new planet and a new order *environmentally, governmentally, relationally, and educationally!*