

becoming  
who you are



# **“Free From Discouragement”**

**(Part 1)**

**Romans 8:18-27**

**Key Point:**  
*A Christian  
should never lose  
an encouraging spirit.*

<b>Present Suffering</b>	<b>Future Glory</b>
<b>From Men</b>	<b>From God</b>
<b>Earthly</b>	<b>Heavenly</b>
<b>Short</b>	<b>Forever</b>
<b>Trivial</b>	<b>Limitless</b>
<b>With our mortal and corruptible bodies</b>	<b>With our perfect and imperishable bodies</b>

<sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction  
is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory  
beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things  
that are seen but to the things that are unseen.

For the things that are seen are transient,  
but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**II Corinthians 4:17-18**



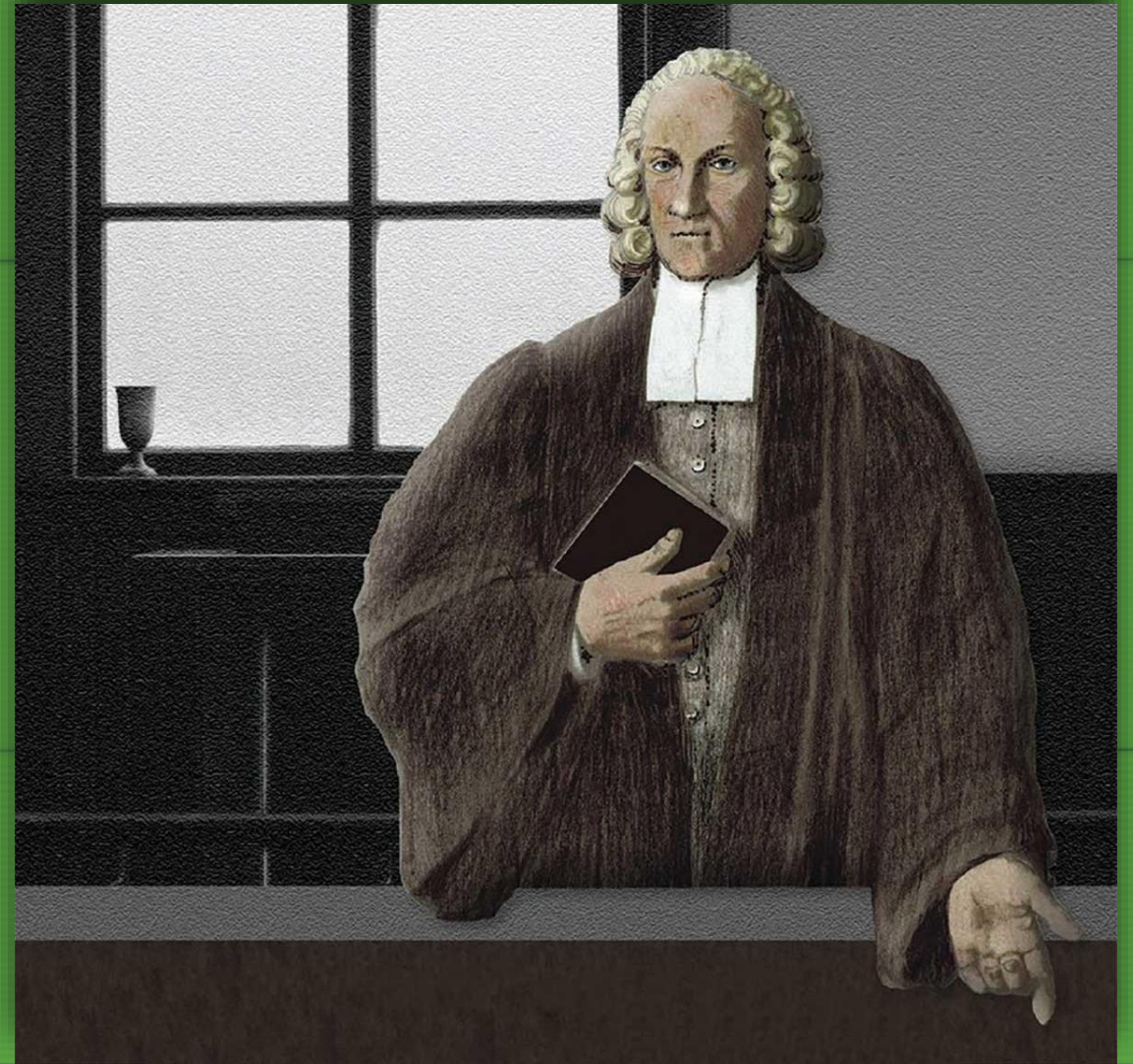
## ***4 Reasons We Ought Not Be Discouraged***

- 1. Because of the Glory to come (vs. 18)**
- 2. Because of the groanings of some (vs. 19-27)**
- 3. Because of the good God who is always at work (vs. 28)**
- 4. Because of the gracious work of salvation and what that means (vs. 29-30)**

## *The Word “Consider”*

- a. Paul is thinking of future glory. Paul is reckoning.
- b. It is a word that implies a numerical calculation based on intense research.
- c. It is like Jesus’ words regarding “counting the cost” (Luke 14:28)

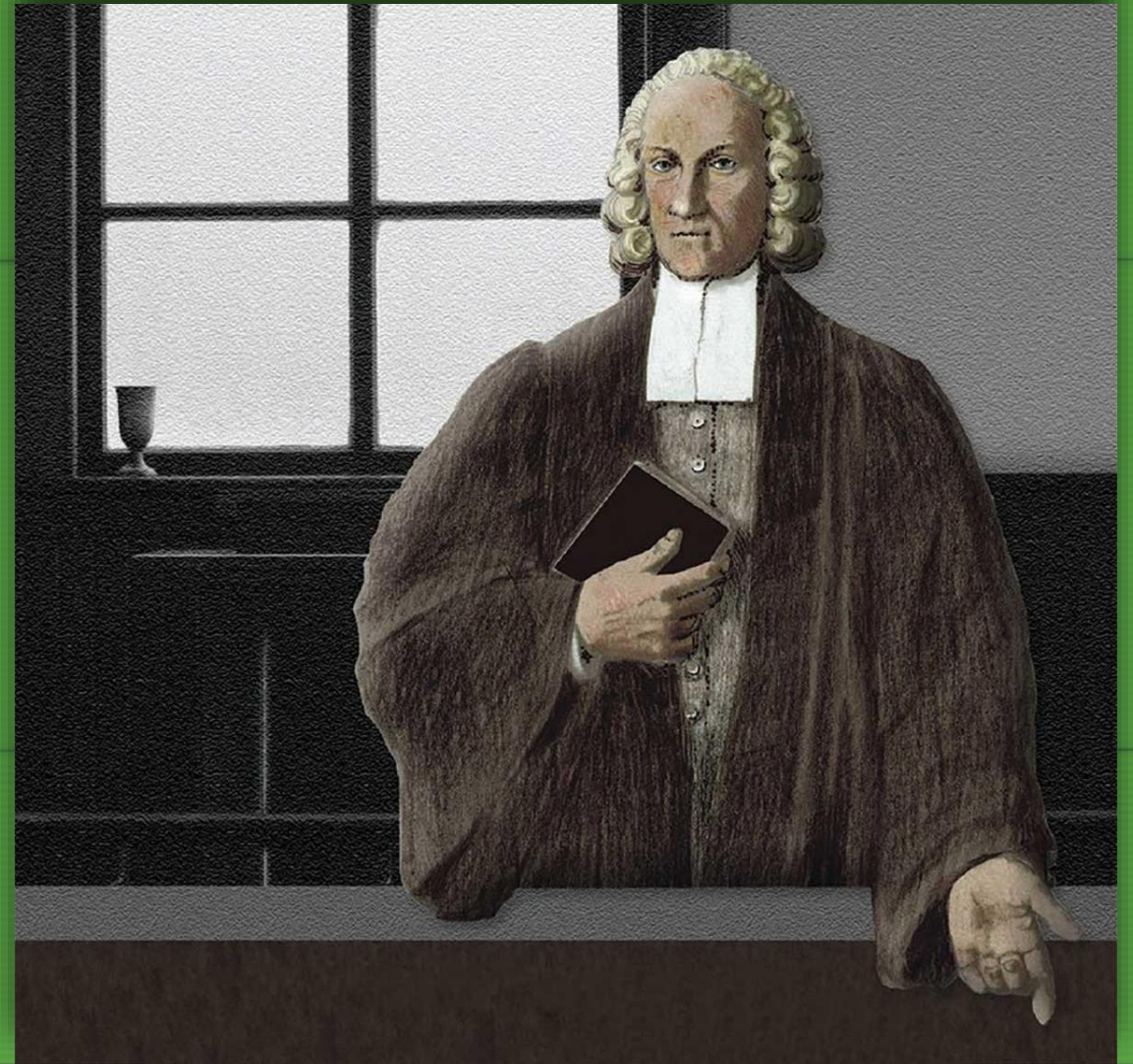
“To go to heaven,  
fully to enjoy God,  
is infinitely better  
than the most pleasant  
accommodations here.



**Jonathan Edwards**  
5 Oct 1703 — 22 Mar 1758



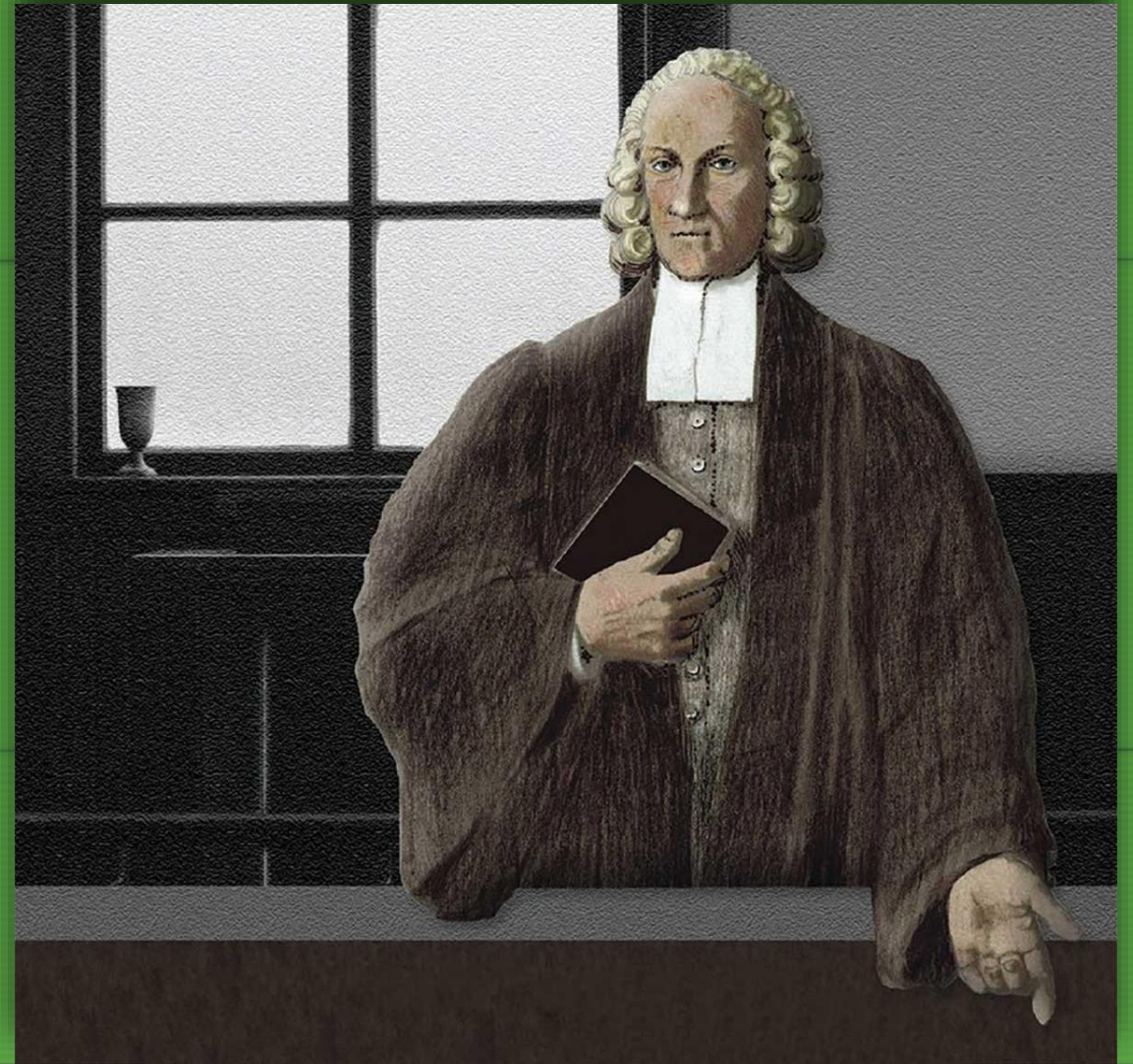
Fathers and mothers,  
husbands, wives and  
children or the company  
of earthly friends  
are but shadows;  
but the enjoyment of God  
is the substance.



**Jonathan Edwards**  
5 Oct 1703 — 22 Mar 1758



These are but the  
scattered beams;  
but God is the sun.  
These are but streams;  
but God is the fountain.  
These are but drops;  
but God is the ocean.”



**Jonathan Edwards**  
5 Oct 1703 — 22 Mar 1758

<sup>24</sup> By faith, Moses, when he was grown up,  
refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,  
<sup>25</sup> choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God  
than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.  
<sup>26</sup> He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth  
than the treasures of Egypt,  
for he was looking to the reward.

**Hebrews 11:24-26**

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Matthew 5:11-12**



<sup>35</sup> Women received back their dead by resurrection.

Some were tortured,  
refusing to accept release,  
so that they might rise again to a better life.

**Hebrews 11:35**

<sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share  
Christ's sufferings,  
that you may also rejoice  
and be glad  
when his glory is revealed.

**I Peter 4:13**

## ***4 Reasons We Ought Not Be Discouraged***

1. Because of the Glory to come (vs. 18)
2. **Because of the groanings of some (vs. 19-27)**
  - a. **The Groaning of Creation (vs. 19-22)**

17 “For behold,  
I create new heavens and a new earth,  
and the former things  
shall not be remembered  
or come into mind.

**Isaiah 65:17**



1 “The heavens  
declare the glory of God,  
and the sky above  
proclaims his handiwork.

**Psalm 19:1**

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness

shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness  
the belt of his loins.

**Isaiah 11:5-9**

<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf  
together;  
and a little child shall lead them.

**Isaiah 11:5-9**

<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

**Isaiah 11:5-9**



<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play  
over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child  
shall put his hand on the adder's den.

**Isaiah 11:5-9**

<sup>9</sup> They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full  
of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

**Isaiah 11:5-9**

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2. **Because of the groanings of some (vs. 19-27)**
  - a. The Groaning of Creation (vs. 19-22)
  - b. **The Groaning of Christians (vs. 23-25)**

“We are waiting to put on  
our proper garments  
and be manifested  
as the children of God.  
We are young nobles  
and have not yet worn  
our crowns.



**Charles Spurgeon**  
19 June 1834 — 31 Jan 1892



We are young brides,  
and the marriage day  
is yet to come.



**Charles Spurgeon**  
19 June 1834 — 31 Jan 1892

Our joy,  
like a swollen spring,  
longs to well up  
like a geyser,  
leaping to the skies.



**Charles Spurgeon**  
19 June 1834 — 31 Jan 1892

It heaves and groans  
within our spirit  
for room to manifest itself  
to men.”



**Charles Spurgeon**  
19 June 1834 — 31 Jan 1892



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  - b. The Groaning of Christians (vs. 23-25)
  - c. **The Groaning of The Holy Spirit**  
**(vs. 26-27)**



<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father,  
and he will give you another Helper,  
to be with you forever,

**John 14:16**

<sup>1</sup> O Lord,  
you have searched me  
and known me!

**Psalm 139:1**

“No wonder  
all things are working  
out for good –  
the Spirit is effectively  
praying for us  
so that the will of God  
will be accomplished in  
our lives.”



**Thomas R. Schreiner**  
24 Apr 1954 — Present

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