1. Every true Christian has the Holy Spirit and is led by the Holy Spirit. Likewise, everyone who has the Holy Spirit has been sealed by Him and is guaranteed their inheritance as an heir, a son of God.
2. It is very important to understand that in order for us to take possession of our inheritance and finally be glorified with Christ, it is necessary that we must suffer with Christ. The true Christian will not live a life without suffering.
3. In Christ we have obtained His inheritance because we have been predestined by the Father to receive it. We can praise the glory of Christ because we have heard the gospel and believed in Him. As the Holy Spirit comes to live in our heart, we are sealed by Him. This seal is the guarantee of our inheritance until one day soon we take possession of it.
4. Even though it is necessary that the true Christian will suffer, Paul reminds us that no matter how great the sufferings of this present time are, they are not even worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
5. The Word of God promises us that we will have to take up our cross and bear sufferings just as Christ has borne great sufferings. When Christ bore the wrath of God in our place on the cross, the suffering was so intense that He cried out that the Father had forsaken Him! So also we might feel at times that God has forsaken us.
6. All of creation groans like a mother in labor waiting for the time when it will redeemed. And those who are true Christians have experienced the beginning of their spiritual redemption in Christ as they await the total redemption of their bodies, physically and spiritually. The Holy Spirit’s work in us causes us to groan as the battle between our sinful nature and the redemption of the Spirit takes place.
7. Sometimes the suffering we experience as Christians is so great that we cannot even find the words to pray for ourselves. In these times the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with the Father and we groan together with Him as He prays. Because the Holy Spirit is God, He knows how to pray according to the Father’s will.

Application

1. Look for and rejoice in the Holy Spirit’s work in your life. You can have an assurance of your own salvation if you see the Spirit growing you to be more and more like Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is a seal of your adoption as an heir alongside Christ.
2. Expect great suffering as you live your life as a Christian. There is no other way to receive your inheritance in Jesus Christ than to suffer with Him. But live with great hope in the midst of your suffering.