

2 Corinthians 5:1-11 – We Walk By Faith.

I. (1-5) Our longing for the heavenly body.

Paul has just contrasted *our light affliction with a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory...*the thought continues.

Do you know that our earthly body is a tent/temporary? Do you know that the tent will be replaced with a building from God, eternal and heavenly?

John 14:2 - *In My Father's house are many mansions [dwelling places]; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you".*

We **groan** in these tents because of the limitations, inconveniences, burdens and corruption we suffer; so we desire to be clothed with a heavenly body, we will be **clothed** and not be **naked** – with immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 - *So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

When the trials are hard on earth, it isn't always easy to take comfort in our heavenly destiny. God knew this, so He gave **us the Spirit as a guarantee (a sure sign of a complete transaction)**.

John 14:16-18 - *"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - *Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.*

II. (6-8) We walk by faith

We walk with confidence/bold in the promised, the unseen and their sure fulfillment. We see the outward man perishing, not so much the inward man growing in glory. Not only do we walk by faith in this world as we serve empowered by the Holy Spirit,

we do so confidently towards eternity – we will someday depart these bodies and be forever united with God.

Psalm 27:1-3 - *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked came against me to eat up my flesh, my enemies and foes, they stumbled and fell. Though an army may encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war may rise against me, In this I will be confident.*

Acts 20:22-24 - *“And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, “except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

Philippians 1:6...*being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;*

My knowledge of that life is small, The eye of faith is dim, But it's enough that Christ knows all, And I shall be with him. To those who have learned to love and trust Jesus, the prospect of meeting him face to face and being with him forever is the hope that keeps us going, no matter what life may throw at us. Richard Baxter.

III. (9-11) To be well pleasing to Him.

Luke 2:49 - *And He said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?”*

1 Corinthians 3:12-14 - *Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.*

Colossians 1:10...*that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;*