

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 5:1-8

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

TELL ME MORE ABOUT HEAVEN

DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING THE RIGHT HEART FOR HIS MINISTRY

Part 2

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Heaven, Resurrection, Death, Life, Glory, Eternity

Introduction to the Text; 2nd Corinthians 5:1-8

2 Corinthians 5:1-8

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**2** For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, **3** if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. **4** For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. **5** Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. **:6** So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. **7** For we walk by faith, not by sight. **8** We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

Previously in 2 Corinthians 5

I have found it rather interesting that, for many people - as they near the end of their lives they tend to rethink their earlier views about God and Jesus Christ – I've seen people become so "open" that they want to know what the Bible has to say about life and death – and is there any hope for them to be in heaven? – life has its terminus. But will yours be heaven?

TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

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| 1.) We're dying to get there | v. 1a |
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For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed,

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| 1a.) You know what's coming | v. 1 |
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| 1b.) You know what's trending | v. 1 |
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|-----------------------------|------|
| 1c.) You know what's ending | v. 1 |
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TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

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| 2.) What will we be like there? | v. 1a |
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we have a building from God, a house not made with (human) hands,

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| 2a.) You will be eternal there | v. 1 |
|--------------------------------|------|

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|---------------------------------|------|
| 2b.) You will be sin-free there | v. 1 |
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|---|------|
| 2c.) You will be looking like you there | v. 1 |
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TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

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| 3.) How long will we be there? | v. 1c |
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eternal in the heavens.

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| 3a.) You will be forever there forever | v. 1 |
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| 3b.) You will be holy there forever | v. 1 |
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|-------------------------------------|------|
| 3c.) You will be safe there forever | v. 1 |
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TELL ME *More* ABOUT HEAVEN

4.) Because I want to be there for life

v. 2-3

John 10:10

The thief (satan) does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

I WANT TO BE THERE VERY MUCH

4a.) Because you're fighting against sin

v. 2a

For in this (*life's brevity and our eternal expectation*) we groan,
This **groaning** - means that we are in labor.

Groan **stena;zw stenazo, sten-ad'-zo;** to be in the straits, or pressed. We grieve, sigh.

The word implies that we're not only contending in a fight, it carries with it the meaning that we're feeling the effects of the long battle.

In the family of God there is a genealogy of spiritual DNA.

It began with Abraham and continues on through the line of all those who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 5:17 NLT

The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires.

I WANT TO BE THERE VERY MUCH

4b.) Because you're fighting against the world

v. 2b

earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation
which is from **heaven**,

earnestly desiring **pōqē-w potheo** (to yearn for) to dote upon. to crave, to lust after.

habitation **oijkhth/rion oiketerion**, oy-kay-tay'-ree-on; a noble residence. A well made dwelling, house.

Romans 8:22-23

For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. **23** Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

We're Not Home Yet

1 Peter 5:8 NLT

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. **9** Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are going through the same kind of suffering you are.

I WANT TO BE THERE VERY MUCH

4c.) Because you're fighting **against wickedness** v. 3

if indeed, having been clothed,
we shall not be found naked. (*unclothed*)

clothed **ejndu/w enduo**, en-doo'-o; to sink into a garment); to be vested with clothing, arrayed, having a costly garment put upon you.

The picture here is a beautiful one.

The imagery is of one who is like a tailor or a valet who's career it is to prepare the children of the **LORD of the house**.

we shall not be found naked. (*unclothed*)

It's Impossible for any of the LORDS children to not be dressed in the finest.

Revelation 3:15-17 Laodiceans

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. **16** So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. **17** Because you say, "I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' – and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and **naked – having no garment of righteousness.**

Matthew 22:11-13

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. **12** So he said to him, "Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. **13** Then the king said to the servants, "Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Are you doing things that the scriptures say not to do?

(*self performing, self advancing, self promoting, self indulging righteousness*)

Ephesians 4:23-24

and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, **24** and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Isaiah 61:10a

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness...

TELL ME *More* ABOUT HEAVEN

5.) I have so many questions about life v. 4-5

5a.) There is going to be heartache v. 4a

For we who are in this **tent groan**, being burdened, not because we want to be **unclothed**, but **further clothed**,

death doesn't have the power to end anything – death now, through Jesus Christ is a toll that He uses to set His children free from the **burden**.

This Tent = Your Tent, My Tent = Groans

...Groan being burdened

Camping is an awesome way to draw closer as a family. But when some knucklehead pulls up in a motor-mansion with his generator and satellite dish - it kind of ruins the neighborhood of tent camping. (he kind of wants to take it all with him - not the Christian, we're looking forward to a mansion without the motor. This **groaning** means to be weighted down.

Burdened **bare·w bareo**, *bar-eh'-o*; from 926; to be weighed down (figuratively): — to be burdened with a great load. To have a weight or load be pressed into your skin.

The longer I live in this world the less attractive it becomes.

The longer I have to fight against temptations and emotions and the flesh, the greater the looking forward to being
"further clothed"

Romans 7:22-8:1

For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. **23** But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. **24** O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? **25** I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin. **1** There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

have you suffered a death in your family or in your circle of friends?

The Christian has been given the power to separate the situation from the psychology of it all - - we look beyond, over the fence, into another world.

2 Peter 3:13

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

I HAVE SO MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE

5b.) There is going to be joy

v. 4b

that mortality may be swallowed up by life.

"Heaven's number of glorified saints is made up of justified sinners"
- William Gurnall

1 Corinthians 15:50-57

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. **51** Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – **52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. **53** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. **54** 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.*” **55** “*O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?*” **56** The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. **57** But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ vs. This World

2 Timothy 1:12 NLT

That is why I am suffering here in prison. But I am not ashamed of it, for I know the One in whom I trust, and I am sure that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of His return.

Will You Today Respond To
Christ's Offer?

>>> The Cross, The Christ, The Call <<<

End of Study

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