

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 5:1

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING THE RIGHT HEART FOR HIS MINISTRY

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Heaven, Resurrection, Death, Life, Glory, Eternity

2 Corinthians 5:1

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with (human) hands, eternal in the heavens.

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 willing 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. Everything does.

TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

1.) I'm dying to get there

v. 1a

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed,

GOT TO BE DYING TO GET THERE

1a.) You know what's coming

v. 1

For we know...

Know

ειδω eido, i'-do; of a certainty. To hold to, as it being in the past tense. To be fully confident of. No doubt.

You know inside of you that something is coming.

How can we become as confident as the apostle Paul

(don't judge yourself in light of paul – judge yourself in light of what God has called you to do.)

the more we see God move in our lives (outside of our abilities) the greater our confidence will be.

Sadly, many Christians today have been kept,
bound up in their old grave clothes like Lazarus. Jesus has called them by name and they have new
life – but they are held back by fear or little sins.

PAUL HERE DECLARES SOMETHING THAT IS A REALITY.
His unwavering confidence in the fact that He possessed Salvation.

You're to be Certain of your salvation today – not later, but everyday.

1 John 5:13

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God.

Romans 8:38-39

For I am persuaded (*to have been convinced. won over*) that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOT TO BE DYING TO GET THERE

1b.) You know what's trending v. 1

that **if** our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed,

For we know that **if** our earthly house,
You cannot study God's Word close enough. Here is a small little word with a huge possibility. ***Can you find it in this verse?***

For we know that **if** our earthly house,
this tent, is destroyed = turns to dust, dissolves.

Earthly **ejpi+geioß** epigeios, ep-ig'-i-os; earthbound, upon earth, on-earth, **terrestrial**.

house **oijki+a oikia**, oy-kee'-ah; a residence for. The place of dwelling for something or someone. **that which houses** (the mind and spirit of man)

(there is only one thing that Paul loved more than ministering – it was the Blessed hope of the Imminent rapture of the church.

The **if** here means that the possibility is always there, that there will be a generation of believers living that will escape death altogether and meet Christ in the air.

GOT TO BE DYING TO GET THERE

1c.) You know what's ending

v. 1

this tent, is destroyed,

The Context of Chapter 5 is that of Death by Persecution.
But the truth encompasses the death of any believer.

When D. L. Moody, the great American evangelist, was dying, and his last recorded words were,
"Earth is receding. Heaven is approaching. This is my crowning day."

Dr. James Dobson Tells of the young mother whose son was dying. She had told him
that whenever Jesus was near you would hear bells ringing...

Facing Death

For parents to provide more effective care, they will need to understand that a child's concept of dying is much different than that of an adult. A child's understanding of death is directly related to their **early developmental stage**.

Until about or around the age 3. Very young children are unable to distinguish death from a temporary separation. A toddler may think that an older brother who has died will return soon, as he does at the end of every school day.

Until about or around the ages of 3 to 6. Preschoolers have not yet developed logical thought processes to discern time and may not realize that being alive and being dead are mutually exclusive events.

Until about or around the age of 5, a child who is told she is dying may say something like, "Can we still go to the beach when I'm dead?"

Matthew 18:3

"Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

tent **skhvnoß skenos**, skay'-nos; a temporary dwelling or a temporary tabernacle or makeshift residence, a human body for a human world. *It is the same word that is used for the Tabernacle in the Wilderness Wanderings of Israel. The temporary dwelling place of the Spirit of God.*

Destroyed **katalu/w** kataluo, kat-al-oo'-o; to loosen or to take down. To dissolve. to halt for the night.

2 Corinthians 4:18

while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

We are often too “**Nearsighted**” as Western Christians.
The LORD wants us to be “Looking over the hill” more often

Numbers 9:16-22

So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night. **17** Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the **tent/tabernacle**, after that the children of Israel would journey; and in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel would setup/pitch their tents **18** At the command of the LORD the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the LORD they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the **tent/tabernacle** they remained encamped. **19** Even when the cloud continued long, many days above the **tent/tabernacle**, the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not journey. **20** So it was, when the cloud was above the **tent/tabernacle** a few days: according to the command of the LORD they would remain encamped, and according to the command of the LORD they would journey. **21** So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey. **22** Whether it was two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the **tent/tabernacle**, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, then they would journey.

Training them to what?

To follow, to listen, to be ready, to be looking up, to be waiting, to be expectant.

TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

2.) What will I be like there?

v. 1a

2a.) You will be eternal there

v. 1

we have a building from God, a house not made with (human) hands,

You will be “eternal” with God.

Another aspect of our redemption is that man has a beginning at birth but has no ending at death – we move on.

1 Corinthians 15:53

For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.

building **oijkodomh/** oikodome, oy-kod-om-ay´; a structure. A house. A design/body

hands **ajceiropoi+htof** acheiropoiotos, akh-i-rop-oy´-ay-tos; unmanufactured architecture. A spoken creation or recreation of the resurrected body. God-made without (not made with) hands.

WHAT WILL I BE LIKE THERE?

2b.) You will be sin-free there

v. 1

we have a building from God, a house not made with (human) hands,

According To The Bible,

You will become just like Jesus in our nature.

1 Corinthians 15:49-53

And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image **:50** 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.

WHAT WILL I BE LIKE THERE?

2c.) You will be looking like you there

v. 1

we have a building from God, a house not made with (human) hands,

You will be you – fully you there.

This worlds effects (sin) will be removed from you

Ecclesiastes 12:1-5 Amplified

Don't let the excitement of youth cause you to forget your Creator. Honor him in your youth before you grow old and say, "*Life is not pleasant anymore.*" **2** Remember God before the light of the sun, moon, and stars is dim to your old eyes, and rain clouds continually darken your sky.

3 Remember God before your legs—the guards of your house—start to tremble; and before your shoulders—the strong men—stoop. Remember God before your teeth, your few remaining servants stop grinding; and before your eyes and those looking through the windows grow dim; **:4** Remember God before the door to life's opportunities is closed and the sound of work fades.

Now you rise at the first chirping of the birds, but then all their sounds will grow faint. **:5**

Remember God before you become fearful of falling and worry about danger in the streets; before your hair turns white like an almond tree in bloom, and you drag along without energy like a dying grasshopper, and the capers (caper berry) no longer inspires sexual desire... we'll just stop here for now.

The Lord is merciful as we grow older.

We are prone to **gain weight** as we age, so God in His mercy allows our **teeth to fall** out so we can't eat as much.

We get **wrinkles and spots** on our face, so God in His mercy allows our **eyes to get blurry** so we can't see all the ugly. We **say the wrong thing** or do a stupid thing, but God in His mercy allows us to **not remember** what we just said or who said what to us. – it's great!

How Should We Be Living in Light of Our Future.

We're going to want to dedicate more of **ALL WE ARE** to things that matter.

A Question About Age?

What about babies who die – what will their age be there?
Will my Sin-effects be removed? (**ugly**) birth defects, scars, zits

You can only come to the end once.

1 John 3:2-3

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Philippians 3:20-21

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body,

TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN

3.) How long will I be there?

v. 1c

3a.) You will be there forever

v. 1

eternal in the heavens.

**You will be there forever in glory. Never to leave. Never to sin. Never to die.
Never to....**

I Am So Glad This World Has An Expiration Date on It

eternal **αιωνιος** aionios, ahee-o'-nee-os; perpetual. Never-ending. everlasting, a world without end. – *many people today live in a terrible way. This world is offensive and mean. – it's a good thing that this world doesn't last forever*

Philippians 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Heavens **oujrano/β ouranos**, oo-ran-os´; the elevation. The highest of highs. The dwelling of God. Not atmospheric, but beyond the celestial.

HOW LONG WILL I BE THERE?

3b.) You will be holy there forever

v. 1

The Power of His Blood to Redeem Fully.

Revelation 22:15

Outside the city (those not there) are the dogs—the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshipers, and all who love to live a lie.

3c.) You will be safe there forever

v. 1

You will be so safe with God there.

Revelation 21:3-4

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. **4** And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

John 10:27-29

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. **28** And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. **29** My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand.

Will You Today Respond To Christ’s Offer?

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

Come Forward for Prayer

End of Study

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