

2 Corinthians 5.1-10 – Persistent Hope in Adversity

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

2 Corinthians 4:1

2 Corinthians 4: 7

2 Corinthians 4:16-18,

Believer, you can have persistent hope in adversity because you have an indestructible home prepared for you, your groanings in this life will be swallowed up, your faith will become sight, and Jesus himself will reward your efforts to please Him.

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Believer, you can have persistent hope in adversity because you have an indestructible home prepared for you, your groanings in this life will be swallowed up, your faith will become sight, and Jesus himself will reward your efforts to please Him.

1 – YOU HAVE AN INDESTRUCTIBLE HOME PREPARED FOR YOU

For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed,

we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

John 14:1-3 – “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

2-5 – YOUR GROANING IN THIS LIFE WILL BE SWALLOWED UP

² For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling,

³ if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed,

but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

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“No, there is no escape. There is no heaven with a little of hell in it—no plan to retain this or that of the devil in our hearts or our pockets. Out Satan must go, every hair and feather.” - George Macdonald

⁵ He who has prepared us for this very thing is God,

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” - A.W. Tozer

who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

6-8 – YOUR FAITH WILL BECOME SIGHT

⁶ So we are always of good courage.

We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,

“God is still present, but because we cannot see him, we are said to be absent from him as long as we are in the body.” - Ambrosiaster

⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Hebrews 11:1 – “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:6 continues, “And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

⁸ Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

9-10 – JESUS WILL REWARD YOUR EFFORTS TO PLEASE HIM

⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Philippians 1:20-21, “as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

We make it our aim to please Him.

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Please Him.

Matthew 25:21

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

“I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).

Believer, you can have persistent hope in adversity because you have an indestructible home prepared for you, your groanings in this life will be swallowed up, your faith will become sight, and Jesus himself will reward your efforts to please Him.

“Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matthew 25:21).

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Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.¹

Maybe long Thomas Goodwin quote on 2 Cor 1:3 about God's great mercy

Confidence = to be convinced about something which leads to bold action.
Gutherie, pg. 285

CS Lewis Screwtape letters – God gets more glory when the believer doesn't want to be does anyway

Hope in Adversity

2 Corinthians 5

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we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling,

³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed,

¹ [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 3:12–15.

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but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God,
who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage.

We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,

⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight.

⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.²

1 – Paul asserts that when our earthly bodies die, we will receive an eternal resurrected body made by God

2-5 – This present groaning is outweighed by God's promise of a resurrected body

2(4a) – Our present suffering increases our longing for our eternal home

3 – Our eternal home is not a disembodied state (naked, unclothed),

4 – Rather, it is a rich life that will completely swallow up everything in this life that causes groaning

5 – This is God's work. It is certain. His Spirit is our guarantee that he won't abandon the project

6-8 – Courage comes from knowing that this life will be followed by a greater life of full presence with the Lord. Faith becoming sight strengthens faith for today

6 – We can have courage even in this life knowing that we are not yet experiencing the best that is to come

7 – One day faith will become sight, but for now we believe God at His Word

8 – We know that to leave this life is to be with the Lord, so we can have courage even in life's struggles

9-10 – We aim to please God, because we are accountable to Him

9 – The aim of the Christian's life must be to please the Lord

² [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 2 Co 5:1-10.

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10 – All believers will stand before Jesus to receive rewards for how we have followed Him

Sermon Outline

1 – You have an indestructible home prepared for You

2-5 – Your Groaning in this Life will be swallowed up

6-8 – Your faith will become sight

9-10 – Jesus will reward your efforts to please Him

Sermon in One Sentence:

Believer, you can maintain your hope through adversity knowing that you have an indestructible home prepared for you, your groanings in this life will be swallowed up, your faith will become sight, and Jesus himself will reward your efforts to please Him.

Parable of Jesus that fits:

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you from this study of God's Word?
 2. What is Paul contrasting when he speaks of earthly tents and a heavenly home (v. 1-3)?
 3. Why is 'groaning' a good word for describing life in a fallen world (v. 4)?
 4. Who guarantees our future salvation? How certain is it (v. 5)?
 5. What does it mean to be at home in the body and away from the Lord and vice versa (v. 6-8)?
 6. What does it mean to walk by faith and not by sight (v. 7)?
 7. What should the believer aim for in their daily life (v.9)? What might this look like?
- Is verse 10 referring to rewards or salvation? How does this motivate us to follow Christ?