



Lesson 25:

Our Heavenly Dwelling

2 Corinthians 4:16–5:10

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

5:1 Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

5:6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. 7 We live by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.



Our gaze at heaven

▲ We are being renewed regularly amidst our struggles

▼ We're rugged and resilient

2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away,

▼ We're renewed and refreshed regularly

2 Corinthians 4:16 Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

▲ We are being refocused regularly amidst our struggles

▼ We're expecting a heavenly glory

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

▼ We're employing a heavenward gaze

2 Corinthians 4:18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Our groaning for heaven

▲ We have a heavenly house

▼ This earthly body will expire

2 Corinthians 5:1 Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed,

▼ That eternal building will endure

2 Corinthians 5:1 Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

▲ We have a hankering for heaven

▼ We're groaning in this earthly tent

2 Corinthians 5:2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

▼ We're groaning for an eternal triumph

2 Corinthians 5:4 so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

Romans 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved.

Our guarantee of heaven

▲ We're holding onto hope

▼ God made us for eternity

2 Corinthians 5:5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose

▼ God motivates us toward eternity

2 Corinthians 5:5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

1. **The Holy Spirit reveals what's assured to the believer.** Romans 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

2. **The Holy Spirit reveals what's available to the believer.** 1 Corinthians 2:9 However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"— 10 but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

3. **The Holy Spirit reveals what's ahead for the believer.** 2 Corinthians 1:21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, 22 set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. — Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

▲ We're homesick for heaven

▼ We're living by faith here

2 Corinthians 5:6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. 7 We live by faith, not by sight.

▼ We're looking forward to the future in heaven

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

Our goal as we gravitate toward heaven

▲ We live for God's agenda

2 Corinthians 5:9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

▲ We live for God's approval

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.