

We Make It Our Goal To Please Him

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Key Verse: 5:9

“So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.”

* LONGING FOR OUR HEAVENLY DWELLING (1-5)

1. What was Paul's hope? (4:17-18) What assurance did this give him? (5:1) What does Paul mean by "the earthly tent we live in"? What is "the building from God"? (Jn14:2) How do the earthly tent and the building from God differ?

2. How does Paul describe our lives in the earthly tent? (2-4) Why are we groaning and burdened? (Ro8:23) What do we long for? (2b; 1Co15:42-44) Why do we need to be clothed in this way? (1Co15:50-53)

3. Who planned for us to live in the heavenly dwelling? (5a) What guarantee has God given us of this heavenly hope? (5b) Why is it so important to have this assurance? (4:8-9,16a)

* LIVE BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT (6-10)

4. How does the hope of the heavenly dwelling affect our inner life? (6a) What was Paul's confidence while in the body? (6,8) With this confidence, how should we live? (7) What are the differences and outcomes of living by faith and by sight?

5. Read verse 9. When we are confident of being with the Lord, what life goal should we set for ourselves? How is this different from living to please ourselves? What does it mean to please God? (Heb11:6; 2Co5:7) How can we live to please God? (1Ti2:3-4)

6. Read verse 10. How does this explain why we should live to please God? What hope and what warning can we find here? In light of this, how should we live while in the body?