

## **Tents**

### **2Corinthians 5:1-8**

Paul preached the gospel (**Good news of Jesus Christ**) in one of the most corrupt cities of his day, Corinth. **Empress, Hotel street 5 churches not want**. **You act like Corinthian- slur-insult** (loose, corrupt lifestyle) Paul experienced great persecution & suffering & yet he had great success turning sinful lives to Christ. **Pauls' motivation & ours?** We're just passing thru this life on to the next in heaven w/ a new improved body--**like Jesus**. **'...knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also w/ Jesus & will present us w/ you.'**<sup>4:14</sup>

Paul reassures Corinthian believers of this fact--instructing them to endure **momentary light afflictions** for the Gospel sake, saying It's no comparison w/ glory awaiting them--so keep the faith & keep the focus on eternal things not temporal trails & temptations. Reassures them---

**2Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven; 3 inasmuch as we, having put it on, shall not be found naked. 4 For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.**

**Know--intuitive, instinctive knowing Eccl 3:11....God has placed eternity in their hearts...** **70-80%** believe in an after-life...just don't know what it is.

**Tent--**man goes psychiatrist 'I have reoccurring dreams one night I'm a teepee the next I'm a wigwam-then a teepee-again a wigwam. Psychiatrist says I see your problem, your just 2 tents

-Made of hides or leather--temporary, wear out, fall apart, seams tear, weather proofing wears away, rope cords fray, stakes pull up—Modern tents--**nylon**-30, 40 yrs; **cotton/canvas**-50 yrs; **polyester**-up to 200 yrs. **As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. Ps 90:10**

You are not your tent, you just live there for now. You are soul & spirit living in a body—your temporary tent.

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### 2Corinthians 5:1-8

**1Thes 5:23** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is why Paul could say **2Cor 5:8** *we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.*

Jesus said **Jn 14:1** *“Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3 “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.*

**Groaning** a contrast of this life/world & the next w/ Christ. **2Pet 2:8**...for that righteous man (Lot), living among them (S/G) day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)—NIV

Paul evaluated the condition of the world, his physical state & promise of being w/ Jesus in paradise—it affected his outlook on life. **We want to be accepted—First by Lord, then by others--not what we think about ourselves but what we think others think about us.**

**Pr 18:24** There are “friends” who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.NLT.....bears all your inconsistencies, weaknesses and foolishness

“Oh, the comfort, the inexpressible comfort of feeling safe w/ a person, having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words, but pour them all right out just as they are, chaff & wheat together, knowing that a faithful friend will take and sift them, keep what is worth keeping, and then w/ the breath of kindness blow the rest away!” **What a friend in Jesus**

**5** Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge. **6** Therefore, being always of good courage, and 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 of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

Confidence we have—Pledge-**earnest(money)** part of the price paid in advance to seal the deal, to confirm the transaction or contract. Gods down payment-**guarantee**-of a purchased possession-us our redemption—Grk ‘engagement ring’ Christ bride & soon marriage supper of the Lamb **Rev 19:9**

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### 2Corinthians 5:1-8

***Jn 14:16 "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; 17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you***

Only those who have eternal hope are able to welcome death as a graduation into eternal life ***Phil 1:20 according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. 23 But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better; 24 yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. 25 And convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.***

Sometimes we sense the time is near--***2Tim 4: 6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.***

***Depart*** lit ***'to take down one's tent & move on'*** Need knew body for atmosphere of heaven. These not made for outer-space or eternal space.

*What would happen if you went into space w/o a spacesuit? Oxygen in your body will expand. You'll balloon up to twice your normal size, but you won't explode. Your skin is elastic enough to hold you together. Liquid on your body will vaporize. So the surfaces of your tongue & eyes will boil. Without air in your lungs, blood will stop sending oxygen to your brain. You'll pass out after about 15 seconds. 90 seconds after exposure, you'll die from asphyxiation. It's also very cold in space. You'll eventually freeze solid but if you're close to a star, you'll be burnt to a crisp instead. Gut bacteria will start to eat you from the inside out so you will decompose very slowly. You could be floating in space, unchanged, for millions of years.*

What kind of body--**1Cor15:35-46**..... ***Gladiolus***---bulb then flower

**1 Thes 4:13-18**.....**Jn 11:25, 26**.....Do YOU believe this?