

# A Christian's Philosophy of Life

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**2 Corinthians 4:16-18** (ESV) So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

*The Christian has a firm foundation for an optimistic perspective on life.*

## 1. INTERNAL RENEWAL (v. 16)

*"So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day"*

**2 Cor 4:1** Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.

**Col 3:10** ...and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator

**2 Cor 4:8–12** We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

**2 Cor. 3:18** And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit

**2 Cor. 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

## 2. FUTURE GLORY (v. 17)

v. 17 "For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison"

**Rom. 8:17-18** ...and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

**Phil. 3:20-21** But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

**Romans 8:28** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose

### **3. ETERNAL ENDURANCE (v. 18)**

**v. 18** "as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal"

**Philippians 3:17** Brothers, join in imitating me, and **keep your eyes** on those who walk according to the example you have in us.

**2 Cor. 5:7** "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"

**Matt. 6:19-20** "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal"

**Galatians 6:7-8** "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

**Job 1:22** "In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong".