

***Returning to the Authentic Gospel
Restoring Our Faith – Our Heavenly Home
2 Corinthians 5:1-10***

ONE THING

When we live with an eternal perspective we will walk with internal peace and external power!

Courageous Ministry...

In verses 1-6 of 2 Corinthians 4, Paul how to have courage to fulfill the ministry...

Living in God's Power...

In verses 7-12 of 2 Corinthians 4, Paul then gives us he secret to living in God's Power...

Our weakness releases God's Power!

Now we move to Paul bringing those two ideas together and showing how we can remain consistent in our faith no matter what circumstances arise...

We must live with Eternal Perspective!

2 Corinthians 4:13-18

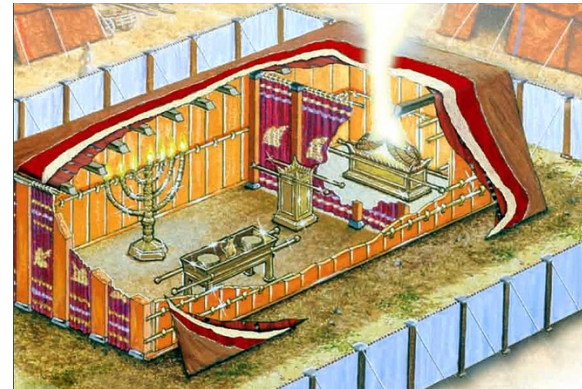
Looking toward our Heavenly home!

In our passage for today Paul is making a comparison between our earthly body being a "tent" and our heavenly body being a "building"...

There are two pictures from the OT that I believe Paul has in mind when using these words...

First, the Tabernacle/Temple

→ Pic of Tabernacle...



→ Pic of Temple...



Second, the Feast of Tabernacles

→ **Pic of Sukkot...**



This year the Feast of Tabernacles just concluded...

It was October 8-16, 2022

As we walk together through our passage I am going to point out some things that I believe will help us understand how we can trust the Lord in this fallen world and live for His glory until the day He calls us Home!

1. Our Confident ASSURANCE

2 Corinthians 5:1 (ESV) — 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.

Listen to the assurance Paul has about our new body in heaven!

Our “TENT” is Fragile...

We know that our body or “tent” as Paul refers to it here is fragile...

While our bodies are unbelievable in so many ways, it is a mystery how any of us remain alive at all...

Paul had referred to this reality earlier...

2 Corinthians 4:7 (ESV) — But we have this treasure in jars of clay ...

2 Corinthians 4:16 (ESV) — So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

Our “TENT” is Temporary...

Each year the people of Israel are to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles by living in “tents” – temporary dwellings to be reminded of their forty years of wandering in the wilderness

Leviticus 23:42 (ESV) — You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All native Israelites shall dwell in booths

They were reminded of the Lord’s provisions for them in the wilderness...

The feast follows the final harvest and precedes next year's harvest...

In the wilderness wanderings the Lord was teaching His people to trust His PROVISIONS...

He provided MANNA each morning as well as WATER FROM THE ROCK

For us...

First, we must ...

➤ **Focus on the Lord's PROVISION!**

1. Our Confident ASSURANCE

2. Our Confirming ANOINTING

2 Corinthians 5:2–5 (ESV) — For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. 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. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

This life is hard!

The word translated here as “GROAN” means...

To groan or sigh as the result of deep concern or stress

This fallen world has produced much groaning...

→ **Creation is Groaning...**

Romans 8:22 (ESV) — For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

→ **The Spirit Groans...**

Romans 8:26 (ESV) — Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

But this is not the end of God's Story!!!

2 Corinthians 5:4–5 (ESV) — 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. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

Second, we must ...

➤ **Focus on the Lord's PRESENCE!**

Again, as we think about the Tabernacle & the Feast...

Exodus 25:8 (ESV) — And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

As the Israelites traveled through the wilderness the Lord's presence was with them...

Jesus came to “tabernacle” with us!

John 1:14 (ESV) — And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us ...

Even now, the Lord is continuing to “tabernacle” with us!

2 Corinthians 5:5 (ESV) — He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

The Cloud & the Fire...

Exodus 13:21–22 (ESV) — And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

The Cloud & Fire represented the Holy Spirit’s guiding presence...

→ I want to show you something...

The Cloud is a picture of WATER

The Fire is a picture of LIGHT

WATER...

John 7:2 (ESV) — Now the Jews’ Feast of Booths was at hand.

John 7:37–39 (ESV) — On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ” Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

LIGHT...

Luke 3:16 (ESV) — John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

1. Our Confident ASSURANCE

2. Our Confirming ANOINTING

3. Our Courageous ANTICIPATION

2 Corinthians 5:6–8 (ESV) — So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

“Good courage” means Courageous

Joshua 1:6 (ESV) — Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

Joshua 1:7 (ESV) — Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9 (ESV) — Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

The Israelites encouraged Joshua...

Joshua 1:18 (ESV) — Whoever rebels against your commandment and disobeys your words, whatever you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous.”

Joshua encouraged the army when fighting against the Canaanite nations...

Joshua 10:25 (ESV) — And Joshua said to them, “Do not be afraid or dismayed; be strong and courageous. For thus the LORD will do to all your enemies against whom you fight.”

BUT HOW?

2 Corinthians 5:7 (ESV) — For we walk by faith, not by sight.

To walk by faith is not blind obedience...

To walk by faith is to believe the God of Promise!

Third, we must ...

➤ **Focus on the Lord’s PROMISE!**

→ **Feast of Tabernacles...**

→ **ILLUSTRATION – Spanish motto change**

“Ne Plus Ultra” – “No More Beyond”

“Plus Ultra” – “More Beyond”

1 Corinthians 15:51–53 (ESV) — Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

1. Our Confident ASSURANCE

2. Our Confirming ANOINTING

3. Our Courageous ANTICIPATION

4. Our Compelling AMBITION

2 Corinthians 5:9–10 (ESV) — So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. 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.

The certainty of a believer’s Judgment...

1 Corinthians 3:12–15 (ESV) — Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each 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. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

Fourth, we must ...

➤ **Focus on the Lord’s PLEASURE!**

Deuteronomy 31:10–13 (ESV) — And Moses commanded them, “At the end of every seven years, at the set time in the year of release, at the Feast of Booths, when all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and the sojourner within your towns, that they may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, and be careful to

do all the words of this law, and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as you live in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

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1. Our Confident _____

➤ Focus on the Lord’s _____!

2. Our Confirming _____

➤ Focus on the Lord’s _____!

3. Our Courageous _____

October 26, 2022

Crossgates, Wed Worship

David Jett

➤ **Focus on the Lord's _____!**

4. Our Compelling _____

➤ **Focus on the Lord's _____!**