

*Forever: Eight Certainties In Every Believer's (Relatively) Near Future*

An Exposition of 2 Corinthians 5

**Certainty #3: Life After Death**

2 Corinthians 5:8

Page 966 in Chair Bible

The Lord's Day Morning

November 19, 2017

“Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.”

–2 Corinthians 5:8

“We believe that at death the souls of those who have trusted Christ for salvation pass immediately into His presence and there remain in conscious bliss until the resurrection of the body at His coming for the Church, when soul and body reunited shall be associated with Him forever in glory.”

– First Bible Church Constitution

"Moreover, to pry curiously into their [departed believers] intermediate state is neither lawful nor expedient. Many greatly torment themselves with discussing what place they occupy, and whether or not they already enjoy celestial glory. It is foolish and rash to inquire into hidden things, farther than God permits us to know. Scripture, after telling that Christ is present with them, and receives them into paradise (John 12:32), and that they are comforted, while the souls of the reprobate suffer the torments which they have merited goes no farther. What teacher or doctor will reveal to us what God has concealed?"

–John Calvin, *Institutes*, 3:25:6

1. The believer's soul immediately enters the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The believer's soul immediately enters conscious \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The believer's soul immediately enters \_\_\_\_\_, not the \_\_\_\_\_.