

Second Corinthians 4:11-5:7

4:11 – Use this temporal life that is dying to manifest the greater, eternal life. Paul is not talking about baptism. Paul is not talking about being born again. Paul is talking about having eternal life today, while in this temporal, dying body. POINT: Use it!

4:12 – Ministry: We are expending (or, spending) our temporal life to enrich others with eternal life. This is the opening theme of 1:3-7. It even seems that Paul's suffering was proportional to the Corinthian's growth.

4:13 – "I believe; therefore I have spoken" comes from David's words in **Psalms 116:10**. David was sick and suffering, but turned to God and rejected the worldly philosophies. David believed something that he had experienced to be true, and spoke from that belief system. Likewise, Paul believes what he is teaching, and so is speaking about how he views life. Paul and David's belief was their philosophical system they spoke and acted from.

4:14 – Paul's belief system is the reason for his present behavior in ministry (expending temporal life to bring eternal life to others). Paul's best life is NOT NOW! Paul's time for service is NOW! And, his message to the Corinthians is to join him in his service, suffering and expansion of the kingdom of God today.

4:15 – In the end Paul's service to the Corinthians and the Corinthians joining Paul in spreading the knowledge of Jesus is ultimately for the Corinthian's benefit...in eternity. This ends Paul's point and he returns to focus in the next verse when he says, "Therefore,..."

4:16 – This is hope. We fade away outwardly today. We are renewed inwardly every day.

4:17 – Today's troubles are producing eternal glory.

Today's troubles are:

1. Light
2. Momentary

Tomorrows rewards are:

1. Eternal
2. Glory
3. Outweighs (a glory outweighs ALL our troubles)

4:18 – Fix eye (focus) on the unseen, unmeasurable, untouchable promises

If you can see it, touch it, feel it, measure it, weigh it then it is temporary.

If it is temporary it should be invested in the service of ministry

5:1 – "We know"

"earthly tent" destroyed we have an "eternal house"

When "earthly tent" and "temporal life" is gone the only thing we have lost is the opportunity to serve

"Eternal House":

1. In heaven
2. Eternal, not temporary
3. House, not tent
4. Not built by humans or of human origin

5:2-4 –

“Earthly Tent”

1. We groan
2. Longing for eternity
3. Earthly, limited to physical universe
4. Tent, temporal, fading, wearing down and ready to be folded up and packed away
5. Burdened (5:4)
6. Unclothed, meaning without an eternal covering (5:4)

5:3 –

5:4 –

5:5 – God has made us like this for this very purpose. Today we are like a seed. But, even in this condition God has given us his Holy Spirit.