

Hope in New Creation

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2Cor 5:1-10

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Synopsis:

Paul like a good Pharisee looked for a general resurrection when the age to come begins. At this time, the Lord would judge us for deeds done in the body. But Jesus had been raised bodily ahead of the general resurrection. What does this mean for those of us who live now, between the times.

Believers live between the times, with the guarantee of a new body through the Holy Spirit. As a result we aim to please God knowing that indeed judgment will come.

I.

Metaphor: Tents, Clothing, and Homes

2Cor 5:1 We know that if this earthly tent we live in is destroyed

What the new resurrected/transformed body look like? Jesus?

Metaphors: Three that Paul uses (or 4:7 clay jars; 1Cor 15 seed)

1. Tent: Middle East and Yosemite READ 5:1

Paul compares tent and building

Bedouin tents everywhere in Middle East

Tents are temporary, move around

*This would work for Middle Easterners

Does it work for us?

Yosemite: Tents and RVs/Ahwanee

-we have gone 3x, staying in RV

-Tents: rain, bears, uncomfortable

-RVs/Ahwanee: dry, no bears, bed

*We live in a tent/RV/been to Ahwanee

-in fact we've been in the RV, been to Ahwanee!

-eaten lunch there! But not there yet!

God has in mind the Ahwanee for us!

2. Clothing: Old versus new READ vv2-5

Paul compares old and new clothes

Tent versus building doesn't work?

How about old and new clothes?

My suits: Old (Wash DC suits) = NO
 New (casual shirt) = YES

*God has new clothes in mind for you

3. Home: away from home or at home READ vv6-9

Paul compares home and away from home

Tent/Building?

Old and New clothes?

How about homesick? Ever been homesick?

Cate in Europe this summer

Remember summer 1984: Coke at McDonalds in Heidelberg

Coming home, hearing English vs. German

*We are not home, but long to be

*God is going to bring heaven and earth together = Home

II.

Experience: Groaning

2Cor 5:2 For in this tent we groan

What does it feel like to live between the times?

Last week: Romans 8:18 sufferings, groan, Spirit

Groan = Long

READ vv2-5 Groan = Long = Holy Spirit

Longing is the experience of living between the times

Paul metaphor v5 , e.g. *arrobón* = downpayment

-guitar bought 5 years ago

-put a downpayment on it

-knew I would make the final payment

-longed for it

*God gives us a longing for the best life ever

III.

Actions: Confident and Please God

2Cor 5:9 So we make it our aim to please him

1. Metaphors: New Life
2. Experience: Groaning (longing)
3. Actions?

How then do we live until we die or Jesus returns?

READ vv6-10

Two characteristics: confidence and pleasing

Confidence: means courage, bravery

- Paul's 2Corinthian letter isn't boastful
- Paul's letter is confident even in clay jars (4:7-10)
- *God gives you confidence in age of suffering
- E.g. bookmarker
- "Peace-not the absence of conflict, but the presence of God"

Pleasing to God: Strange for us

- How many say, "I want to please God?"
- E.g. someone you love you want to please
- My wife: I want to please her the more I love her

Do you want?

1. New Life
2. Fulfilled longing
3. Confidence and Pleasing God

*These are available in Jesus Christ

*Give your life to him now