



Summer Quarter 2021 Theme:
Confident Hope
Unit III. Faith Gives Us Hope

Lesson Titles:
Be Confident
 (Faith Pathway Bible Studies)
Hope Eternal
 (Townsend Press Sunday School
 Commentary)

LESSON 13—August 29, 2021

Devotional Reading: Romans 7:14-26

Background Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:16–5:10

Print Passage: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 5:1-10

Key Verse(s):

We know that if our earthly house of this
 tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building
 of God, an house not made with hands,
 eternal in the heavens.
 (2 Corinthians 5:1, KJV)

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We know that if the earthly tent we live in is
 destroyed, we have a building from God, an
 eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.
 (2 Corinthians 5:1, NIV)

► Questions to Consider:

1. What does the Apostle Paul say about our present afflictions and how Christians should respond?
2. How does the Apostle Paul describe our earthly bodies in comparison to our resurrected bodies?
3. What is going to happen when we stand before the judgment seat of Christ?

► Lesson Context:

- Paul reminded the Christians at Corinth that they must **never** lose heart and become discouraged.
- Paul encouraged the faithful to stay committed to the truth and reaffirmed his deep love for them.
- Paul reminded the church at Corinth that they must remain vigilant because the trials they had to endure were only temporary, light afflictions when weighed against the glory of eternity.

► Lesson Aims:

As a result of experiencing this lesson, the participants should be able to do these things:

- Acknowledge the hope that Paul, when faced with death, manifested in God's eternal promise.
- Experience awe in the faith of family and friends who are facing their mortality.
- Develop a growing trust in God's promise of eternal life through faith.

► Lesson Outlines/Key Points:

I. **Focus** (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

Key Point 1: Paul offered words of **encouragement** to the suffering saints.

Key Point 2: Believers are exhorted to look beyond this present age and world to that which is to come.

II. **Forecast** (2 Corinthians 5:1-5)

Key Point 1: Paul contrasts our earthly bodies to our future resurrected bodies.

Key Point 2: The Holy Spirit within us is our guarantee that God will give us everlasting bodies at the resurrection.

III. **Future Fate** (2 Corinthians 5:6-10)

Key Point 1: Christians are to continue to labor and work until God's plan for them is complete.

Key Point 2: Everyone will stand before God to receive a just reward for the deeds of our lives.

► **Lesson Summary:**

- Believers can be assured that when life reaches its conclusion, God has a more glorious future in store—an eternal future that will never fade away
- Having faith in God gives us hope to persevere through life and reminds us that, for the Christian, the life to come is far better than this one.
- Paul challenged his readers to persevere through life's peaks and valleys, successes and failures with an unshakable hope and faith.
- Knowing that we have an eternal possession in glory, Paul wrote that we must not faint, but move onward and upward by God's sustaining, renewing presence.

What Do You Think? (These questions are found in this week's Faith Pathway student book.)

1. What kinds of afflictions have hindered you from serving the Lord? Have you overcome them? If so, which lessons, and strategies can you share to help others facing similar struggles?

2. How can you be sure that your fate is certain with God eternally?

3. What are some of the rewards received at Judgment? Take a moment to research what the Bible says about the rewards of the believer.

As a result of this lesson, I will do the following:
