

Joyful Life Bible Studies

II CORINTHIANS 5:1-10

Lesson 10

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review II Corinthians 4:7-18. Share a way the study or lecture on these verses has influenced your life this week.


2. Our study of II Corinthians 5:1-10 will sharpen our eternal perspective. These verses reveal that as Christians we can live and face death with courage and confidence. For an overview of this week's study read the following verses and write a brief title for each:
 - a. II Corinthians 5:1-5

 - b. II Corinthians 5:6-8

 - c. II Corinthians 5:9,10

3. Studying God's Word provides and equips believers with faith and hope. To profit the most from your study this week write a prayer. Ask the Lord to use II Corinthians 5:1-10 to strengthen your faith and encourage your heart. Write your prayer here.

*Then we shall be where we would be,
then we shall be what we should be;
things that are not now, nor could be,
soon shall be our own.*

-selected 

SECOND DAY: Read II Corinthians 5:1-4

1. There is tremendous pressure in our culture today to focus on the physical body. We are presented with a different and liberating perspective in II Corinthians 5:1-4. Paul's life was in danger because of his Christian faith and witness. With this in mind read verse 1. What did Paul and his co-workers *know*?

a. Note verse 1 NIV: *Now 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.* Identify and circle the two words in this verse that Paul used to describe the body.

(1.) Contrast a *tent* with a *house* by listing a few differences between:

Tent	House

b. *When this earthly tent we live in is taken down – when we die and leave these bodies – we will have a home in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God Himself and not by human hands* (verse 1 NLT). How does this verse affect your eternal perspective?

2. This hope gave Paul courage to meet and endure whatever physical dangers and hardships he encountered as a servant of the Lord. Choose and record a few phrases from II Corinthians 5:2-4 that reveal his attitude and perspective on life and death.

Challenge: What does Romans 8:22,23 say about *groaning*?

3. Notice Paul's expectation from II Corinthians 5:2b NLT: *and we long for the day when we will put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing.* Think for a few moments about the resurrected body as you scan I Corinthians 15:35-44. Use your own words to answer the questions Paul asked in I Corinthians 15:35.

4. With today's study in mind ponder I Corinthians 15:49. Share how this ministers to you today.

THIRD DAY: Read II Corinthians 5:5

1. II Corinthians 5:5 continues the subject of our resurrected bodies. Read Paul's powerful declaration in verse 5a NIV: *Now it is God Who has made us for this very purpose.* Think about God's glorious *purpose* – the redemption of your body. What is your response to this?
 - a. What was the cost of your redemption according to I Peter 1:18,19?
 - (1.) Write a prayer expressing your thanksgiving for this.
2. Focus on II Corinthians 5:5b. Consider the assurance verse 5b provides as you print it here.
 - a. Link verse 5b with II Corinthians 1:22. The word *earnest* means *pledge* or *guarantee*. This *pledge* has been likened to an engagement ring. The Holy Spirit is given to us as a promise of our heavenly home. How should this affect your faith and confidence concerning the future?

Advanced Students: Research and briefly record the different aspects of the believer's redemption.

3. False doctrine had been introduced into the first century church by Greek philosophers. They taught that the body was evil and man's primary aim was to be without a body. How should Paul's message in II Corinthians 5:1-5 help refute this error.
4. Reflect on Paul's faith and hope revealed through II Corinthians 5:1-5. How is this an example for you?

*Beloved, now we are children of God;
and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be,
but we know that when He is revealed,
we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*
I John 3:2 NKJV

FOURTH DAY: Read II Corinthians 5:6-8

1. Today's study of II Corinthians 5:6-8 should both inspire and challenge us as we learn more about the faith of Paul and his co-laborers. Think about Paul's faith as you fill in the words from verse 6a:

Therefore _____

- a. Expand your understanding of the word *confident* by listing a few synonyms for it.
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2. Read II Corinthians 5:6,8 and notice the word *confident* is used in both verses. What did Paul *know* with absolute confidence? Answer by completing the following phrases:
 - a. *whilst (while) we are at home in the body* _____(verse 6b)
 - (1.) Does this mean that the Lord is not present with us while we are our earthly bodies? Answer from Matthew 28:20 and Hebrews 13:5b.
 - b. *to be absent from the body* _____(verse 8b)
 - c. With II Corinthians 5:6,8 in mind briefly summarize what Paul said in Philippians 1:23,24.
 3. Although II Corinthians 5:7 is a familiar verse to many Christians, pause and think about what it means. Until we see the Lord face to face, how are we to *walk*?
 - a. Give an example of this.
 4. Christians need unshakable faith, steadfast courage and confident hope. Share a way your faith, courage or hope has been strengthen through today's study.

*So death releases me. It releases my spirit from this body
that it might move into the new house, the building of God,
where there I will dwell with the Lord forever.*

-Pastor Chuck

FIFTH DAY: Read II Corinthians 5:9,10

1. II Corinthians 5:9 should be written on the heart of every Christian. Consider verse 9 NIV: *So we make it our goal to please Him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.* Print the key phrase in this verse. Selah.
 - a. The phrase *we labour* in verse 9 KJV means *we are ambitious*. (Selfish ambition is sin. Holy ambition is an unrelenting pursuit to please the heart of God.) The phrase *accepted of Him* is better translated *well pleasing to Him*. What is required of us to make our *ambition* and *goal* to please the Lord?
 - b. Follow Paul's example and make *pleasing Him* your fervent desire. Write verse 9 here personalizing it.
2. II Corinthians 5:10 draws our attention to an awesome future event. Contemplate verse 10 as you write it here phrase by phrase.
 - a. The *judgment seat of Christ* is the *bema seat* where the believers' works will be judged to determine reward. It is not the Great White Throne judgment where unbelievers will be judged. What do we learn about the *judgment seat of Christ* in verse 10a?
3. What do the following verses add to your understanding of II Corinthians 5:10:
 - a. Romans 14:10-12
 - b. I Corinthians 3:12-15
 - c. With these verses fresh in your mind read II Corinthians 5:10 once more and consider the words *all* and *every one*. How does this motivate you to choose that which is eternally important?

*For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels;
and then He shall reward every man according to his works.
Matthew 16:27*

SIXTH DAY: Review II Corinthians 5:1-10

1. In response to your study this week record one thought or truth from the following verses:
 - a. II Corinthians 5:1-5
 - b. II Corinthians 5:6-8
 - c. II Corinthians 5:9,10

2. What impressed you the most from your observation of Paul and his co-laborers?
 - a. What can we do to possess their passion and perspective?

3. In light of your study of II Corinthians 5:1-10 how do the following phrases speak to you:
 - a. *we have . . .an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens*
 - b. *we are always confident*
 - c. *we walk by faith*
 - d. *we may be pleasing to the Lord*
 - e. *we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ*

4. Share a way this week's lesson has influenced your eternal perspective.

*Set your affection on things above, not on things of the earth.
When Christ, Who is our life, shall appear,
then shall ye also appear with Him in glory.
Colossians 3:2,4*