

**11 Corinthians 5:1-6      Change Is Coming!**

**2/15/2026**

"Things are not always going to be this way." Now what that means depends on who is saying it. Sounds so wonderful coming from a surrendered believer, yet dreadful coming from an unbeliever. Believer or unbeliever?

Believer: **I John 3: 2-3** " Beloved, now we are the children of God; and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is."

Unbeliever: **I Thessalonians 4:13** "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope."

**Ephesians 2:12 b** ",,, having no hope and without God in this world."

American Christians have a particularly hard time thinking that leaving this life for heaven is the best thing ever. We make ourselves sick when we do not think of the way eternity will be. We lack a holy **"longing"** for the glorious, permanent and eternal. Our conversations give us away. When you get more excited about sports or politics, than talking about the Lord, and a time when we will have boundary-free fellowship with the Lord in heaven, then something is very wrong.

C.S. Lewis- " The human soul was made to enjoy some object that is never fully given- nay, cannot even be imagined as given- in our present mode of subjective and spatio-temporal experience." P. 350 Sec. 860 "The Quotable Lewis"/ " What does not satisfy when we find it, was not the thing we were desiring." Lewis, op. cit. P 351 Sec. 863."/ [ Ed. Note: The "island" in *The Pilgrim's Regress* is the symbol of desire, and desire itself properly understood is the longing for God which is *common to all and pursued by some.*]" Lewis, op. cit. P. 350 Sec. 861

**Great passages to know in relationship to our passage today. Get to know these. Romans 8:11, 23/ I Cor. 15: 50-53/ Philippians 1: 21-24 , 3:20-24/ I Thessalonians 4:13-18.**

**Text: 11 Corinthians 5:1-9 \*\*\*\*\***

**5:1 "Earthly tent"** - (Greek-skenous)- tabernacle. Portable, temporary. Not as strong as a building.

This earthly tent is about your body, not your home in heaven ( John 14: 2 "many dwelling places" - Gk. Monai pollai).

**5:1 ( cont.) "eternal in the heavens"** I guess Christian engineers and scientist will need a new course in physics! Nothing falls down and get old, it only grows better, never stagnant. Lol.

**5:2-3** We “groan” not in complaint, but in longing, because of the knowledge that this heaviness will all change one day! We know one day we will bust into a reality that the Bible says cannot be fully understood now. *It transforms your everyday.* You no longer seek to escape the everyday responsibilities, but joyfully fulfill them.

**Ex.** On vacation to see my cousins. While there we built fences. They felt sad about it (because they were stuck there) ; we knew we got to leave and go home, so we were glad to **fully engage** in helping them so we could finish, **and then we get to go home!** Ironically, to us, it did not feel like work. How could that be?

**Ex.** Church helps with my daughter’s wedding. Everybody exhausted. I was apologetical that it took more work ,on their part, than I thought they should have done. Way beyond the extra mile! Somebody said. “ It is ok, it is a good kind of tired! We wanted to do this!”

**5:4** We carry the weight of limitations of the fragility of the human condition. We do not want to feel that missing reality of a heavenly home, and eventually a glorified body to go with it.

**Ex.** Like a little kid that is “too little” to do what the other kids do. It nags at him. It is like a burden that comes around about every week or so. But they also realize, by the “evidence standing around them,” i.e., the big people, they will one day transform into adulthood.

**5:4 (cont.) “Shallowed up by life!”** Bio vs. Zoe life. Physical( Bio) earthly life vs. eternal (Zoe), physical life. **Isaiah 25:8-9**

**5:5 Question:** Sounds good, but what do I do when I get weary? How do you get through this temporary like with joy and hope and peace in the struggle? **The Holy Spirit ( Romans 15:13).**

All this has been prepared for us, and the Holy Spirit keeps our heart vital, and alive, and excelling in growing toward Christ right now! Remember **11 Cor. 1:21-22?** “Now He who established us with you in Christ and anointed us id God, who sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge. (Down payment, like earnest money in securing a home.)

**5:6-9** Absent only by physical distance. **Faith not sight** because it is not the time of consummation yet. Faith will more than do; until then! Nothing can hold back the love of Christ being demonstrated in every part of our life. **“We are of good courage”** v.6 and 8 ! Remember who is saying this! It will be better one day to be with Him, of course.

**5:9 “our ambition”** ( intense terminology here) Not just think about it occasionally, but laser-focused on it!

**“pleasing to Him”** ( Hebrews 11:5-6, 13:16/ Colossians 1:10/ I Thessalonians 2:4, 4:1/ Psalms 19:14/ I John 3:22/Ephesians 5:8-10)