

Hope from God Views Today in Light of the Day of Seeing God Face to Face

2 Corinthians 4:16-18—Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentarily, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

"Therefore we do not lose heart" This passage is about hope from God!

Contrast #1: "Decaying" vs. "Renewed"

Contrast #2: "Outer man" vs. "Inner man"

What do you think about when focusing on the decaying outer man? How can the inner man be renewed day by day?

Contrast #3: "Momentary" vs. "Eternal"

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Contrast #4: "Light affliction" vs. "Glory beyond all comparison"

Which matters more, momentary light affliction or eternal glory beyond all comparison? What would you think if you viewed today's problems in light of the day you see God face to face? What would you do differently?

Contrast #5: "Things which are seen" vs. "Things which are not seen"

Contrast #6: "Temporal" vs. "Eternal"

At what things are Christians to look?

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Life Applications

Hebrews 11:24-27—By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen.

Background: "By faith"

Moses' faith expressed in action

"Refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter"

"Choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God"

"Than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin"

"Considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasure of Egypt"

Moses' thinking

"He was looking to the reward"

The results of Moses' faith

"He endured"

"As seeing Him who is unseen"

Viewing today in light of the day of seeing God face to face

Action

Choosing to obey God even if it is difficult

Not enjoying the passing pleasures of sin

Considering walking with Christ greater treasure than the world's riches

Thought

Looking to the reward

Purpose

To endure

To live as seeing Him who is unseen

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The result of living with hope from God

2 Timothy 4:6-8—For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

"Normal" life

Fight the good fight

Finish the course

Keep the faith

Live with a view to the future crown of righteousness and eternal life

Love His appearing

When days on earth are few

The security of the fruit of walking with God

The confidence of faith