2 CORINTHIANS The Benefit of Inadequacy

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10

"By Faith Not By Sight"

What gives you confidence when things are difficult?

1. What is Seen

"this light momentary affliction ... our earthly home"

2. What is Unseen

"an eternal weight of glory ... at home with the Lord"

3. Their Connection

"is preparing for us ... we are of good courage"

1. What is Seen

"this light momentary affliction ... our earthly home"

Hurt and Home

1. What is Seen

- 4:16 "wasting away"
- 4:17 "affliction"
- 4:18 "transient"
- 5:1 "destroyed"
- 5:2 "we groan"
- 5:3 "being burdened"
- 5:4 "mortal"
- 5:6 "away from the Lord"

1. What is Seen

"this light momentary affliction ... our earthly home"

Hurt and Home

Temporary

1. What is Seen

"this light momentary affliction ... our earthly home"

2. What is Unseen

"an eternal weight of glory ... at home with the Lord"

3. Their Connection

"is preparing for us ... we are of good courage"

2. What is Unseen

"an eternal weight of glory ... at home with the Lord"

Permanent

Glory and Home with the Lord

"an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading..."

- 1 Peter 1:4

"but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

- Mathew 6:20-21

"Now, if we are made for heaven, the desire for our proper place will be already in us ... In speaking of this desire for our own faroff country, which we find in ourselves even now, I feel a certain shyness. I am almost committing an indecency. I am trying to rip open the inconsolable secret in each one of you—the secret which hurts so much that you take your revenge on it by calling it names like Nostalgia and Romanticism and Adolescence; ...

"...the secret also which pierces with such sweetness. that when, in very intimate conversation, the mention of it becomes imminent, we grow awkward and affect to laugh at ourselves; the secret we cannot hide and cannot tell, though we desire to do both. We cannot tell it because it is a desire for something that has never actually appeared in our experience. We cannot hide it because our experience is constantly suggesting it ..."

– C. S. Lewis

"...we remain conscious of a desire which no natural happiness will satisfy. But is there any reason to suppose that reality offers any satisfaction to it? ... A man's physical hunger does not prove that that man will get any bread; he may die of starvation on a raft in the Atlantic. "... But surely a man's hunger does prove that he comes of a race which repairs its body by eating and inhabits a world where eatable substances exist. In the same way, though I do not believe (I wish I did) that my desire for Paradise proves that I shall enjoy it, I think it a pretty good indication that such a thing exists and that some men will."

- C. S. Lewis

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." – John 14:1-2

2. What is Unseen

"an eternal weight of glory ... at home with the Lord"

Permanent

Glory and Home with the Lord

1. What is Seen

"this light momentary affliction ... our earthly home"

2. What is Unseen

"an eternal weight of glory ... at home with the Lord"

3. Their Connection

"is preparing for us ... we are of good courage"

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"is preparing ... we are of good courage"

Developing and Directing

3. Their Connection

- 4:16 "is being renewed"
- 4:17 "is preparing"
- 5:2 "longing to put on our heavenly dwelling"
- 5:4a "further clothed"
- 5:4b "swallowed up by life"
- 5:5 "Spirit as a guarantee"
- 5:6,8 "we are always of good courage"

3. Their Connection

"is preparing ... we are of good courage"

Developing and Directing

"so that each one may receive what is due"

What gives you confidence when things are difficult?