

**“A Missional Perspective”  
2 Corinthians 5**

## INTRODUCTION

### I. A Resident Perspective (vv.1-10)

- A. The Tent we Live in (vv.1-3)
  - 1. Our physical bodies (wasting away)
  - 2. Understandable image for Paul. Acts 18 shows us that Paul spent a year and a half starting this Corinthian church and made a living making tents
  - 3. Built-in reminders of eternal home (groans for something better, opportunity for signs we will live for eternity -- earthly body is like a canvas that images of eternity are painted on by God, largely through suffering)
- B. The Home we Long for (vv.4-5)
  - 1. There is longing NOW
  - 2. Eternity with God
  - 3. Moving that direction physically and spiritually
  - 4. Equipped to be prepared by God
  - 5. Eternity now by the indwelling Spirit (**Eph.1:13-14**)
- C. The In-between (vv.6-10)
  - 1. So, you're body is wasting away. You're going to die. BE ENCOURAGED!
    - a) **2 Cor. 4:16-18**
    - b) Even as Christians, we reflect the world in trying to buffer our mortality.
  - 2. But this just shows how far we've veered from true discipleship (forsaken goods and kindred)

a) **Luke 9:57-60**

b) **Matt.5:29-30**

- 3. Faith now, to see what we will see then
- 4. Resident desire... to be with Jesus (increasingly)
- 5. While here, then, the desire is to please the Jesus that you will see and give an accounting to

### II. A Purposed Perspective (vv.11-21)

- A. A Motivated Persuasion (vv.11-15)
  - 1. Out of reverential awe of God - So, we aim to please God and what pleases God is the worship of His people
  - 2. The passion is persuasive (for worship)
  - 3. Persuading with the heart, not appearance, for the heart
  - 4. Controlled by the love of Christ
  - 5. Compelled to live for Christ
- B. A Simplified View of People (vv.16-17)
  - 1. In view of this eternal perspective, people will be seen from an eternal point of view
  - 2. Once, Christ was seen as a heretic, blasphemer, trouble-maker...at best rabbi or prophet
  - 3. EVERYONE who is in Christ is a new creation....re-made (this is both defense and statement)
- C. A Clarified Source (vv.18-19)
  - 1. God does not share His glory, so He is the source of life and salvation
  - 2. He initiated, enacted, and completed the work of salvation for the reconciled
  - 3. He gives the message of reconciliation to the reconciled

4. He is the message: His work in reconciling (making His people "right" in His eyes) is not an overlooking of sin, rather a NOT counting it against them (but someone had to account for it, namely Jesus) --  
SO, WHEN WE ARE BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST, OUR SINS ON DISPLAY WILL NOT COUNT AGAINST US BECAUSE THEY WERE PUT ON JESUS FOR US!!!

D. A Synthesized Message (vv.20-21)

1. What I mean here, is the inseparable connection of message and messenger
2. We are reconciled, therefore we implore others to be reconciled

**APPLICATION:**

- So, we are to look at ourselves from an eternal perspective. We are to look at others from an eternal perspective. We see, then, that God in Christ Jesus is the one who saved us and gives us the message that can save others. From that eternal perspective, we understand that we are reconciled (made okay) to God through Christ and, therefore, are to take that message of reconciliation to the world, no matter what the cost.
- So, college student, do you believe you are here at the UofA to please yourself or Christ? The answer depends on your perspective. Is it all about you and what you gain or is it about God's glory in the gospel in you?
- Church member, have your eyes been on the things of this earth more than looking forward to His coming? Remember, the evidence of your life will be seen one day with clarity.

Does the weight of your life show that the increased balance of your life is for Christ?

- Are you truly a follower of Jesus Christ? If not, the only way to be one of His, is to realize that God is creator, having made made to worship Him and Him alone. Man, while created for this purpose, has sinned against God, seeking His own way and pleasure. Man sins in action because he is a sinner by nature. You must then realize that only the keeper of God's perfect covenant, Jesus Christ, can save you because He lived perfectly, died in your place (the death you deserved), rose from the dead, and is now at the right hand of the Father. If you believe that and want Him, you must turn from the sinful ways of the world and go after Jesus.