

I CAN'T WAIT TO GO TO HEAVEN

2 Corinthians 5:1-11

Introduction: While walking through a cemetery following a funeral, I saw an inscription on a tombstone I will never forget. I read the man's name, the date of birth and death, then an epitaph that chilled my blood. It said, I AM GONE, I KNOW NOT WHERE TO CONTEND WITH I KNOW NOT WHAT!

Contrast that hopeless epitaph with the promise given to us by our Lord Jesus, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." The Apostle Paul, walked in the power of that promise too.

I. PAUL WAS CONVINCED OF THE TRUTH OF HEAVEN

2 Cor. 5:1 *For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*

II. PAUL WAS CONSUMED BY THE THOUGHT OF HEAVEN

2 Cor. 5:2-4 *For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.*

III. PAUL WAS CONTENT IN THE TRIUMPH OF GOD TO GAURANTEE HIS TRIP TO HEAVEN

2 Cor. 5:5 *Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.*

IV. PAUL WAS CONFIDENT IN THE MIDST OF HIS TRIALS AS HE AWAITED HIS TRIP TO HEAVEN.

2 Cor. 4:8-9 *We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;*

V. PAUL REMAINED COMMITTED TO THE TASK THAT GOD COMMITTED TO HIM AS HE AWAITED HEAVEN

2 Cor. 5:9 *Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.*