

## The Hope of Glory

### Scripture

“For we know that if our earthly house, [this] tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in [this] tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing [is] God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.” (2Co 5:1-5 NKJV)

### Devotion

The believer has a most precious promise, the future of immortality in Christ. We know if this body of ours dies that we will be raised up in a glorified body fit for heaven. In fact, the expectation of that future glory even beckons us to come. Not that we would desire death, or should any desire death, but that the future expectation is so marvelous in that we would be near Christ and absent from the burdens of this sinful world. It is this future hope that makes our enduring so much easier.

Of course, this is predicated on not being found naked as the passage says. Therefore, to ensure our hearts, God has given us His Spirit as a guarantee. “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God” (Ro 8:16 NKJV). The question is what is that testimony of the Spirit? What does it look like? How is it known?

One of the primary influences of the Spirit is seen in the control of the mind. “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those [who live] according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded [is] death, but to be spiritually minded [is] life and peace.” (Ro 8:5-6 NKJV)

This overarching influence upon the mind motivates the believer and produces other godly qualities. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22b-23a).

This pureness, this godliness is that which all true believers long. To be like Christ, and live in perfect holiness, free from the burdens of sin is the ultimate goal. If this is not true in our lives, how can we say we have our minds set on the things of the Spirit?

Beloved, give yourself time to focus upon Christ today. “. . . Whatever things are true, whatever things [are] noble, whatever things [are] just, whatever things [are] pure, whatever things [are] lovely, whatever things [are] of good report, if [there is] any virtue and if [there is] anything praiseworthy— meditate on these things.” (Php 4:8 NKJV)

Have hope in your future glory.