

- B.** We can be confident because we have received the Spirit Of God and trust in the Word Of God.

“5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

II Corinthians 5:5,7

“13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”

Ephesians 1:13-14

“while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

II Corinthians 4:18

IV. MAKE IT YOUR AIM TO PLEASE GOD

- A.** Honor God with your body.

“Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.” II Corinthians 5:9

“...All things were created through Him and for Him.”

Colossians 1:16b

- B.** You will be judged for what you have done in your body.

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

II Corinthians 5:10

“But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.” Romans 14:10

Trade In Your Suffering For Jesus' Perfection

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

Trade In Your Suffering For Jesus' Perfection

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A.** Are you ready for a change? The cross of Jesus Christ was the place where the great exchange took place. His all for our nothing. His righteousness for our sin. His death for our life.

And it did not end there. Through the power of the gospel many more exchanges take place today for those “in Christ”.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

II Corinthians 5:17

- B.** The Bible book of II Corinthians reveals seven beautiful ways Jesus can change your life. Attend The Great Exchange teaching series and discover how to trade your pain for Jesus' new life. The messages include:

Apr 16 Trade In Your Sin For Jesus' Righteousness

Apr 23 Trade In Your Depression For Jesus' Encouragement

May 1 Trade In Your Grudges For Jesus' Forgiveness

May 8 Trade In Your Discouragement For Jesus' Motivation

TODAY Trade In Your Suffering For Jesus' Perfection

May 22 Trade In Your Greed For Jesus' Generosity

May 29 Trade In Your Weakness For Jesus' Strength

Come and hear these messages learn valuable lessons for building your story today.

- C. TEXT:** II Corinthians 5:1-10

This passage in many ways is a “theology about the body.” It reveals how to trade in your suffering for Jesus' perfection. It begins with the words “For we know” (5:1a). God wanted us to know that we will suffer in our earthly body, but through Jesus we can have a perfect heavenly body. He also wanted us to know how to correctly manage our bodies while on earth in preparation for heaven.

HOW TO TRADE IN YOUR SUFFERING FOR JESUS' PERFECTION

I. KNOW YOU WILL RECEIVE A PERFECT HEAVENLY BODY

A. Our earthly body is temporary and imperfect.

Paul describes it as a "tent."

"For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed,..." II Corinthians 5:1a

"So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers." Acts 18:3

B. Our heavenly body is eternal and perfect.

Paul describes it as a "building from God."

"...we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

II Corinthians 5:1b

"20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body...,"

Philippians 3:20-21a

C. You will groan for your heavenly body.

"2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked.

4 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."

II Corinthians 5:2-4

"23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

24 Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you." Philippians 1:23-24

II. UNDERSTAND YOU WILL SUFFER IN YOUR EARTHLY BODY

A. Understand suffering is the result of the curse of sin.

"but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." Genesis 2:17

"In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19

B. Understand Jesus came to reverse the curse.

"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree")," Galatians 3:13

"25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

III. WALK BY FAITH WITH CONFIDENCE

A. We are confident that our last breath on this earth will be our first breath in heaven.

6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.

8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." II Corinthians 5:6,8

"For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand." II Timothy 4:6