

Ultimate Life: Camping or Home?

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

¹Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ²Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

⁶Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷We live by faith, not by sight. ⁸We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

1 Camping

2 Life now is a tent, heaven is a home 5:1

3 So we groan in the tent, longing for heaven 5:2-4

4 For this was why God made us 5:5

5 So wait in confidence, longing for heaven 5:6-8

6 Have the goal of pleasing Him 5:9-10

7 Are you home or are you homesick?

Lord God,
Help us not to live like this world is home.
But help us to live like we are homesick – longing for heaven.
Thank you that you give us the deposit of your Spirit as a guarantee of what's to come.
Help us to have the goal of pleasing you.
Lord we recognise that we fail to please you in so many ways.
Thank you that you forgive us in Jesus.
But Lord please to help us not to presume on that – but to work actively to do what you would delight in.
We pray this in Jesus name.
Amen.

Dominic Steele says 'Several people asked for more information on forgiveness after my address on Good Friday. There's a helpful essay by a friend Malcolm Williams at www.feva.org/pdf/forgiveness.pdf

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