

**Not at our outer self, but at our inner self (4:16-18)**

- Paul discusses the hardship they had to endure in being ministers of the gospel (4:7-12)
- He notes the good that comes from sharing the gospel (4:13-15), and says, “So we do not lose heart.” (4:16)
- He did not focus on what happened to the “outer self”; his focus was on the “inner self” (4:16-18)
  - The inner self is constantly being renewed (5:17; cf. Romans 12:2)
  - The things that happen to the outer self are “light” and prepare us for an “eternal weight of glory” (cf. Matthew 10:28; Romans 5:3-5; 8:18)
  - We must look to the eternal!

**Not at our earthly home, but our house built by God (5:1-5)**

- If we looked at our “earthly home”:
  - When is it destroyed, we have “nothing” (5:1, 3)
  - We groan, being burdened (5:2, 4)
- When we look past this home, we see:
  - That we have a building from God that is not made with hands (5:1)
  - We are further clothed in that which does not perish (5:4)
  - The promise of God (5:5)
- This was the faith of Abraham (Hebrews 11:8-16) and must be our faith (Romans 4:22-25)

**Not at our surrounding, but at our Savior (5:6-10)**

- While “at home in the body” we are “away from the Lord” (5:6)
  - Paul does not mean that we are cut off from the Lord—in fact, he says we are reconciled to God through Christ (5:18-21)
  - We are not **with** him in the absolute sense of his presence (as presented in Revelation 21-22)
  - We cannot look with our eyes and see Jesus
- “We walk by faith and not by sight” (5:7)
  - We do not look at the world that surrounds us and get lost in the groanings and burdens and aches and distractions
  - We look to Jesus and focus on pleasing him in whatever is happening (5:9)
  - We look to the future in which Jesus will be our judge (5:10)
- After displaying acts of historical faith (Hebrews 11), the Hebrew writing instructs his readers “to turn their eyes away from other things and fix them on” Jesus (Hebrews 11:4, see G872, Thayer)