

We Do Not Lose Heart

Introduction

- Every one of us went through the younger years of life with expectations, plans, dreams & hopes for our future – unbeliever & believer
- After salvation, God gives a **new** perspective on life (past, present & future)
- After salvation, God gives a **new** perspective on Him (Is. 46:9-10)
- After salvation, God gives a **new** perspective on ourselves (2Co. 4:7; Rom. 12:1-2; Phil. 3:10; Matt. 22:37-40)

I. Believers Have the Faith to Endure (4:13-18)

A. The internal stability of believers (v. 13-15)

Believers persevere in life & ministry for three reasons: a believer's faith comes from God (v. 13; Phil. 1:29), faith regarding the resurrection (v. 14) & faith that other believers' lives will be changed for the glory of God (v. 15).

B. The internal encouragement of believers (v. 16-18)

Believers find encouragement in life & ministry for three reasons: daily spiritual renewal (v. 16), the temporary nature of all suffering (v. 17) & the eternal glory of things yet to be revealed (v. 18).

God provides internal stability & encouragement for the gospel life & ministry.

II. Believers Have the Hope to Endure (5:1-10)

A. Explanation of our heavenly house (v. 1-4)

Our earthly house [body] suffers, groans, longs for eternal relief & will be destroyed (v. 1a, 2). Our resurrected body [heavenly house] is from God & will be our eternal clothing (v. 1b-d, 3-4; Phil. 3:20-21).

B. Preparation for our heavenly house (v. 5-10)

The Holy Spirit gives the believer assurance of full transformation at the resurrection (v. 5; Rom. 8:14-17). The certainty of the resurrection gives a believer hope in life & ministry (v. 6-8). Because we all will give an account to Christ for the way we lived, believers should humbly obey Him (v. 9-10) – reward or loss.

God provides eternal hope for endurance in the gospel life & ministry!