



"Many times over the years Pastor Chuck said, "Some day you're going to read in the paper, Chuck Smith died, but that's bad reporting. What it should say is, 'Chuck Smith moved!'"

2Cor. 5:1-9 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. [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. [5] Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. [6] So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. [7] For we walk by faith, not by sight. [8] We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. [9] Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

2Cor. 5:1-8 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.

- What a promise!! When this body, this tent, our earthly house is destroyed – “dies”; “We then have a building from God, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens!” A wonderful, fantastic, promise, for each of us, now realized by Pastor Chuck!

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

- The Holy Spirit is our guarantee. *Joh 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—[17] the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. Christ has purchased us, and the Holy Spirit indwelling the believer is the guarantee.*
- One of these days we will move out of this old house and we will be with the Lord! How wonderful! One can hardly wait!

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

- We are at home in the body. I like this body of mine. Through the years we get used to this body of ours. We feel at home in it. However, as long as we are at home in this body, we are absent from the Lord!

[7] For we walk by faith, not by sight.

- How could Paul, how can we, be so sure that when we leave this body we will be present with the Lord? Paul says that we walk by faith. We take God at His Word. Faith is taking God at His Word. We are living in these bodies, and we are absent from the Lord. Do you have any problem taking what God has promised you?

[8] We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

- We could translate “to be present” to be “at home with the Lord.” It contrasts being at home in the body with being at home with the Lord. Remember that the soul does not die. The soul never dies; the soul goes to be with Christ. It is the body that is put to sleep. It is the body that must be changed. There will be a generation that will not go through death, but their bodies will still need to be changed. “Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.... For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (*1Co 15:51, 1Co 15:53*). It is the body that goes to sleep. It is the body that is raised. Resurrection does not refer to the soul or the spirit. The English word *resurrection* is the Greek word *anastasis*, which means “a standing up.” It is the body which will stand up. Knowing these things, we walk by faith.

[9] Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

- We are all going to have to stand before Him someday and give an account of our service, our lives!! This should motivate us to serve Him as well pleasing as we can!
- WHAT A WONDERFUL PROMISE WE BELIEVERS HAVE!!
- “Well done good and faithful servant....enter into the joy of your lord”! (Mt. 25:21)
- “Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Tim. 4:8)
- ARE YOU READY?

“SANCTUARY”

Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living, sanctuary, for you. [2x]

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