



Walk By Faith, Not By Sight
2 Corinthians 5:1-10



**See The Present
in Light of the Future
Promised by God**

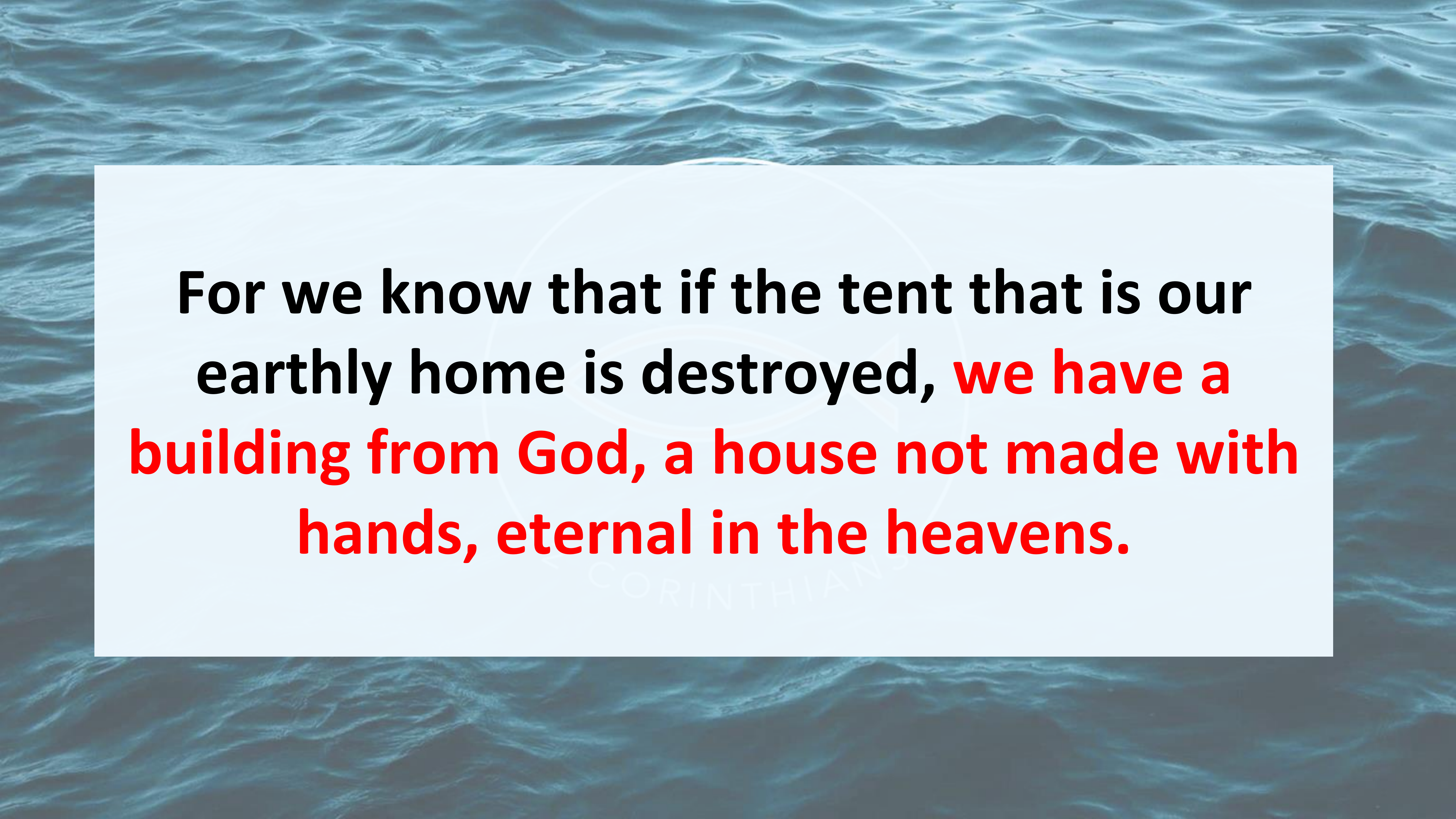
2 CORINTHIANS



1) The Future Brings Assured Hope

For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the **affliction we experienced** in Asia. For we were so **utterly burdened beyond our strength** that we **despaired of life** itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the **sentence of death**. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such **a deadly peril**, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. (2 Cor 1:8-10)

- **Weak in appearance, speech unimpressive (10:10)**
- **Opposed by false prophets (11:3-6, 13)**
- **Had Jewish enemies (11:26)**
- **Was beaten and stoned (11:23-25)**
- **Experienced danger, sleepless nights, hunger, cold (11:26-28)**
- **Had a thorn in his flesh (12:7)**



For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

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PRESENT BODY	FUTURE BODY
Tent	Building
Earthly home	Heavenly dwelling
Temporary	Eternal



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

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So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is **imperishable**. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in **glory**. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in **power**. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a **spiritual** body. (1 Cor 15:42-44)



**2) The Presence (Firstfruits)
of the Future Is Here!**

1st Firstfruits: the resurrected Jesus Christ

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But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep (1 Cor 15:20)

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Physical body

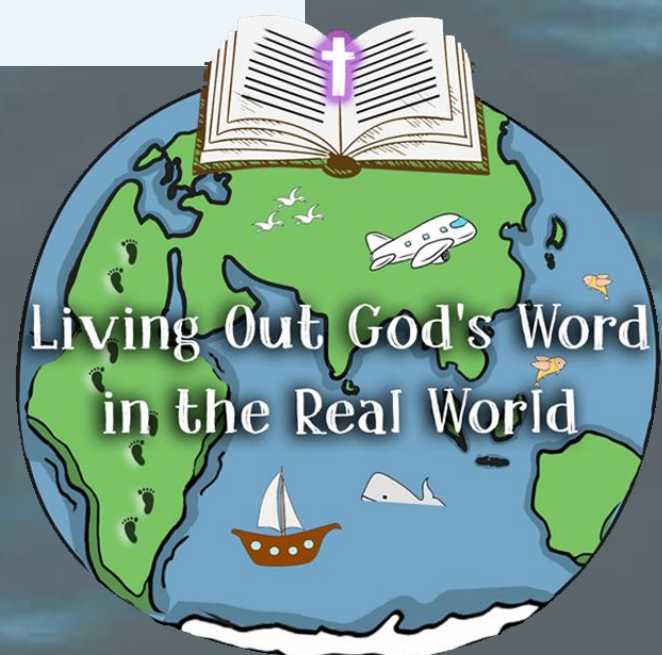
Intermediate
state

Future body

State of nakedness
(v3) : Intermediate
state?

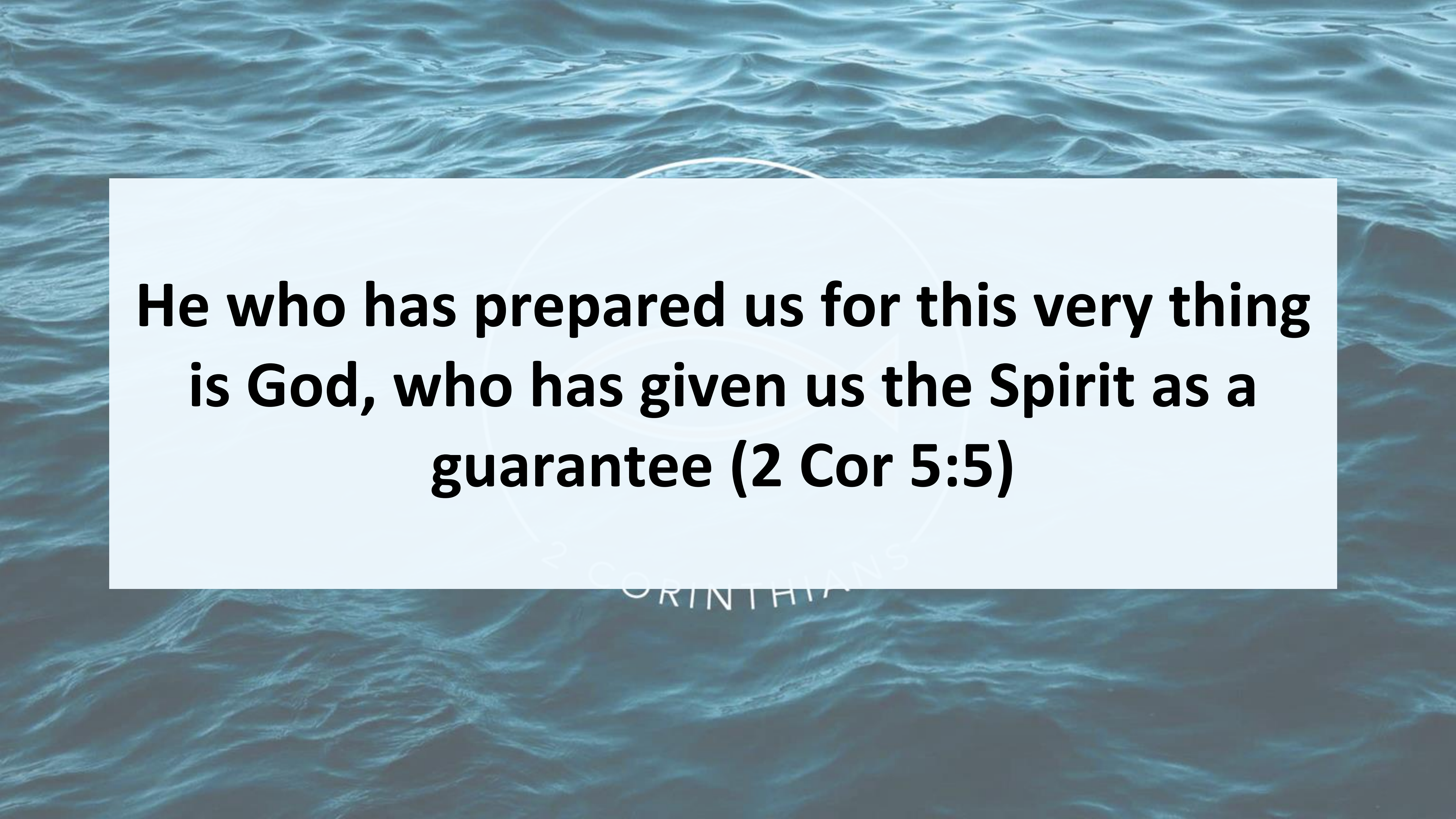
("the person is with
the Lord" or "the
person is sleeping")

- 1) Praise & thank God for the resurrection of Christ**
- 2) Problems -> Be reminded that God will renew it. Choose to hope.**



2nd Firstfruits: the Holy Spirit

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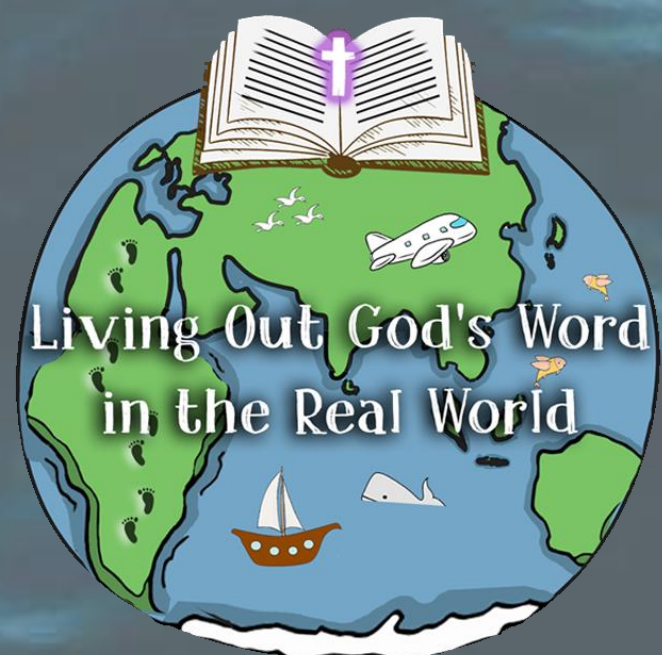
**He who has prepared us for this very thing
is God, who has given us the Spirit as a
guarantee (2 Cor 5:5)**

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And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the **firstfruits of the Spirit**, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies (Rom 8:23)

Implications

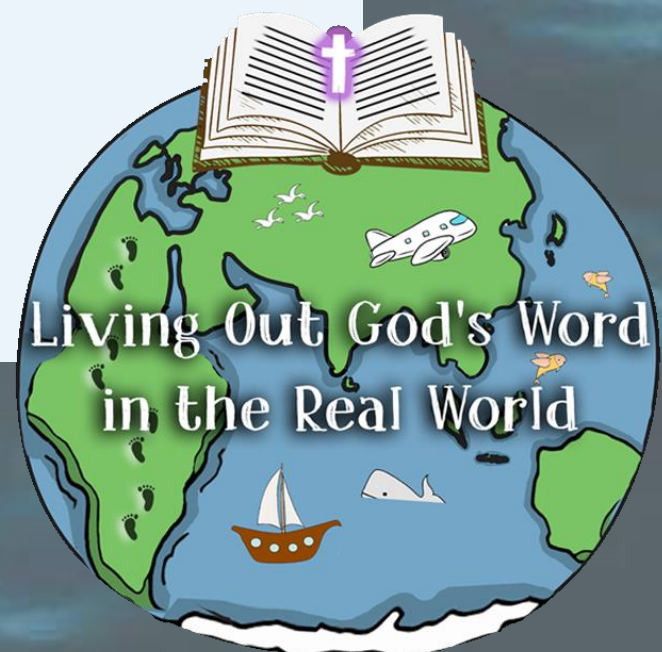
- 1) Guarantee of resurrected life is in us:
inward renewal until death is
swallowed up by life**



Implications

2) Our groaning is hopeful/not meaningless

For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling...For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life (2 Cor 5:2, 4)





**3) Considering the Future Hope,
Walk by Faith**

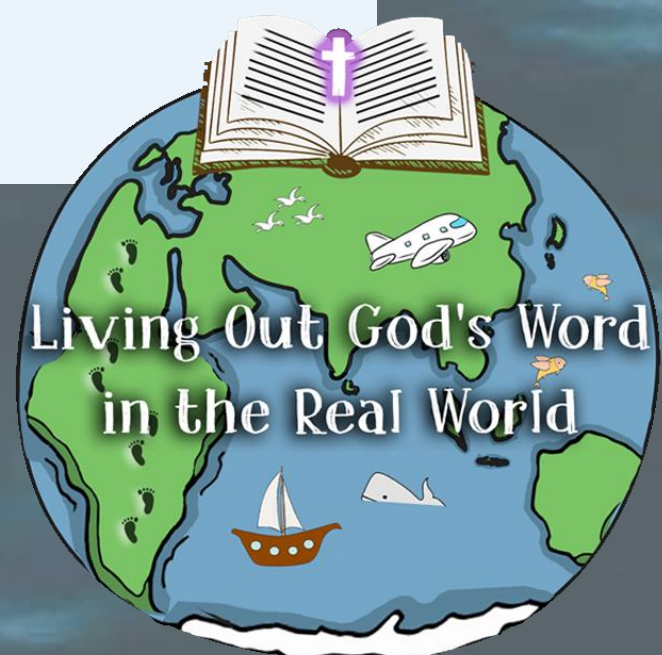
So we are always **of good courage**. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord...Yes, we are **of good courage**, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

(2 Cor 5:6, 8)

The Christians at Corinth:

- **Have become rich, have become kings! (1 Cor 4:8)**
- **Confident they are in Christ, but so are Paul and his team! (2 Cor 10:7)**
- **Appear to boast in supernatural experiences (Paul's 'one-upmanship' in 2 Cor 12:1-10)**

- **Testify of his transforming work in us and bring comfort to others**
- **Learn not to hold on too tightly to own life, people and things**



***In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.***

(3rd stanza of Hymn of Promise)