

GOOD COURAGE

1. Is founded in a knowledge of faith

- Context of this letter:
 - Various sinful practices in congregation of Corinth have been rectified.

 - Reason why Paul writes this letter: there are still false teachers at work in Corinth.

- Paul is of good courage, through the knowledge of faith (4:14, 26, 17a).

- Paul considers his suffering as:
 - A 'light affliction';

 - A means whereby God's people inwardly are being renewed.

- What veil covers your eyes?
 - Materialism, world conformity and indecision (cf. 1 Ki. 18:21; Rev 3:18)?

 - Work holiness?

- True conversion is necessary.

2. Has to do with dwelling

 - The dwelling of the *believer*:
 - Metaphor of a tent (5:1-4)

- Paul's groaning:
 - Is not *about*, but *for* something.

- Characterises his life and thinking.

- God's children experientially learn a spiritual paradox.

- Eternal life will swallow up temporal life.

- The dwelling of the *Holy Spirit*:
 - Is revealed by the new birth and faith.

 - The presence and working of the Holy Ghost is the pledge of God.

 - Is the reason why believers can always be of good courage.

- 3. Becomes manifest in living well-pleasing unto God**
- Those who live closely to the Lord have an expectation for the future:
 - To be conformed to the image of Christ in perfection.

 - To be placed before Christ's judgment seat.
 - Consider the solemnity of the love of Paul.

- These future expectations should spur God's children to live well-pleasing unto God.
 - The encouragement is not on anything in themselves, but in Jesus Christ.