

^[1] For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ^[2] For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven; ^[3] in as much as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. ^[4] For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ^[5] Now He Who prepared us for this very purpose is God, Who gave to us the [Holy] Spirit as a PLEDGE.

[2 Corinthians 5:1-4]

It should be obvious to all that “the earthly tent” the Holy Spirit moved Paul to write about is these ‘mortal bodies’ we now live in as our ‘earthly home’. Let me remind you that we humans are also triune beings. Triune is an adjective consisting of three in one, especially to the nature or essence of a person. The Holy Spirit reveals this truth to us in 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 where we hear Paul say,

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and MAY YOUR SPIRIT and SOUL and BODY be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faithful is He Who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

Genesis 2:7 reminds us that that when the LORD God formed our human body, He did so from the dust of the ground. Then, when He breathed into man’s nostrils the breath, which is the ‘spirit’ of life; man became a living being, or ‘soul’. Also remember, Zechariah 12:1 teaches us that it was God Who formed your ‘spirit’ within you. And Ecclesiastes 12:7 then reminds us that when we die,

then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God Who gave it.

The Hebrew word for ‘soul’ is the noun נֶפֶשׁ (nefesh)¹ meaning breath, the inner being with its thoughts and emotions. The Greek noun for the ‘soul’ is ψυχή (psookhay)¹ and is the vital principle which animates both humans and animals. Again, as in Hebrew, the ‘soul’ is the inner being with its thoughts and emotions. When death comes to us, the ‘soul’ is separated from the body.

So, when this separation occurs, the body goes back to the dust of the earth, and the spirit returns to God Who gave it. **BUT** what happens to the ‘soul’? Listen to what Hebrews 6:17-19 says.

^[17] In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, ^[18] in order that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we may have strong encouragement, we who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us. ^[19] THIS HOPE we have AS AN ANCHOR OF the SOUL, a HOPE both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil (of Heaven)....

Now listen to Hebrews 10:39 which teaches us that,

*... we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, **BUT** of those WHO HAVE FAITH TO the PRESERVING OF the SOUL.*

¹ “Soul” in Hebrew is the noun נֶפֶשׁ (nefesh), Strong’s Hebrew dictionary noun number 5315. The Greek noun is ψυχή (psookhay), Strong’s Greek dictionary noun number 5590.

Now listen to what Revelation 6:9 teaches us that John saw when the Lamb, 'broke the fifth seal'. Here John,

... saw underneath the altar the SOULS of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained!

These verses show us that our FAITH and our TESTIMONY PRESERVE our SOULS which then go to Heaven when we die.

Now let us move on to 2 Corinthians 5:5 where we read,

^[5] Now He Who prepared us for this very purpose is God, Who gave to us the [Holy] Spirit as a PLEDGE.

This PLEDGE can also represent earnest money, which is something which stands for a guarantee as part of the price paid beforehand to confirm a transaction. It is used in the New Testament only in a figurative sense; and spoken of the Holy Spirit which God has given to believers in this present life to assure them of their future and eternal inheritance. As well as here in 2 Corinthians 5:5, it is also found in 2 Corinthians 1:22, where we read,

^[22] For as many as may be the promises of God, in Him they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us. ^[21] Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, ^[22] Who also sealed us and gave us the [Holy] Spirit in our hearts as a PLEDGE.

It is also found in Ephesians 1:13-14 where we learn that,

^[13] In Him [Christ], you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel ^(good news) of your salvation, having also believed, you were SEALED in Him with the Holy Spirit of PROMISE, ^[14] Who is given as a PLEDGE of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Lord willing, please meet me here tomorrow when we will continue looking at part two of this series on the believers Heavenly Home.

Now please join me in prayer.

Abba Father, I pray with thanksgiving again Today that You have shown us You love for us by having prepared an eternal home for our soul! I also praise You for giving us a promise and guarantee of this Heavenly home by giving us Your Holy Spirit as a pledge! I pray this prayer in Jesus Name! Amen!

Please meditate and pray on these things! Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** Who promises in His Word to never leave you nor forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6,8]!

BECAUSE GOD HAS GIVEN ME HIS HOLY SPIRIT AS A PLEDGE THAT I HAVE AN ETERNAL HEAVENLY HOME WITH HIM AND JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, I TRUST THAT I WILL RECEIVE THAT HEAVENLY HOME! - tom