

2 Corinthians 5:1-8

**For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved** (*the body in which we live dies*), **we have a building of God, an house** (*a permanent building – a metaphor referencing the glorified body*) **not made with hands, eternal in the heavens** (*this could not be an intermediate body but the eternal glorified body*). **For in this (body) we groan** (*not groaning in pain but groaning for glory!*), **earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven** (*the eternal, glorified body*): **If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked** (*the description of the intermediate and disembodied state between death and the resurrection*). **For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed** (*pass into the intermediate and disembodied state between death and the resurrection*), **but clothed upon** (*receive a transformed and glorified body at the Rapture*), **that mortality might be swallowed up of life** (*so we might escape death and live forever in a new body*).

**“Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God** (*God will give us a new body someday*), **who also hath given unto us the earnest** (*down payment*) **of the Spirit** (*which means we will get our glorified body someday – it’s guaranteed even though we might die before the Rapture*). **Therefore** (*because of the down payment of the Holy Spirit*) **we are always confident** (*a permanent state of mind that we will one day be with Jesus*), **knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body** (*still living on earth in our body*), **we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:** - today we see Jesus by faith) **We are confident** (*possessing unwavering confidence and hope*), **I say, and willing rather** (*willing to put off receiving our glorified body and die before the Rapture occurs so we can be with Jesus*) **to be absent from the body** (*the intermediate state between death and the resurrection*), **and to be present with the Lord** (*in Heaven*).

Paul is simply teaching in this passage that the **first** state is good (on earth in the present body), the **second** is better (being with Jesus in Heaven in a disembodied state), and the **third** is best of all (receiving a glorified body at the Rapture and living with Jesus).