

Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord for we walk by faith, not by sight—we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord (2Cor. 5:6-8; NAS).

What is your preference? What do you like? All of us like to have things our way. We frequently exercise our power of choice, and with it usually serve our self. But when it comes to spiritual things, the apostle Paul, in the above passage has some humbling things to say.

First, *we are to be of good courage*. Romans 8:31 says, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” We can have a positive attitude, knowing that God is on our side.

Second, *we are to walk by; faith and not by sight*. This becomes a little more difficult than just being of good courage. This means doing things that make us uncomfortable. It means trusting in an unseen God. Our daily walk is to be based on His testimony (Heb. 11:1) and not our own understanding (Prov. 3:5).

Third, *we are to prefer to be with the Lord rather than on the earth*. This one may be the most difficult of the three. We live in a country and society that offers so many choices for clothing, food, entertainment, jobs, etc., that choosing to be in the heavenly realm with Jesus is a tough decision to make. But Paul said that he would rather be absent from the body and present with the Lord.

Now, what is your preference?

See you Sunday!
-gls