

For we walk by faith, not by sight

2 Corinthians 5:7

Chapter 5

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling,

3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.

4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

5 Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord.

7 For we live by faith, not by sight.

8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

10 For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

The Ministry of Reconciliation

11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience.

12 We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart.

13 If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

14 For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:[a] The old has gone, the new is here!

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

7 For we live by faith, not by sight.

John 5:19-20

19 Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; **he can do only what he sees his Father doing**, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed.

Background

The Healing at the Pool

near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda

One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

6 When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

7 "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."

8 Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." 9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The known sentence

11 But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.' "

The man and Jesus himself were accused of breaking the Sabbath

19 Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; **he can do only what he sees his Father doing**, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does.

Now we have the Holy Spirit having the same function as in creation

We are working with the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters in Genesis 1:1

The Holy Spirit had the power to create, but He did not have the mandate to create on His own. He was dependent on the WORD.

So when God said let there be... The Holy Spirit created what was said in those Words.

And we know that the Word was Jesus the Son of God.

So here we have the holy trinity working together.

Jesus said that He and the Father are ONE.

John 17:21-23

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

So when we, you and I are ONE with the WORD, we have the authority to speak like the WORD (Jesus).....

That is activating the Holy Spirit to do what the WORD says.

Isaiah 55:11

so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

So you speak the Word of God with authority.

The WORD goes to the Father
The Father acknowledges His Word.
The Father sends it to accomplish His desire

Of course God answered the prayer of Jesus in John 17:21

“That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, **that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.**”

How can the world know that God sent Jesus?

Only when we live and act like Jesus, then the world will know that Jesus was sent to save everybody.

Jesus was always walking around preaching and healing those that came to Him.

We have the same ministry as Jesus had when He was physically walking on the earth.

Let us encourage all believers to do exactly that.