



Today's Message

Date: February 3, 2019
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***Suffering: The Path to Glory***

Text: 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 (ESV)

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Introduction: Servants of the Lord Jesus Christ always face obstacles in the ministry. This is a harsh reality of our calling. Consequently, many lose heart, fail in the work. If anyone ever had cause to lose heart it was Paul, yet he did not. He understood that:

Today's take-home truth: The significance of our task is so great that failure is not an option.

How, then, can we avoid giving up in the work of the Lord?

I. Concentrate on spiritual renewal. 16

- A. In the face of adversity . . .
- B. daily cultivate internal strength.

II. Evaluate the present in the light of the future. 17

- A. Remember that affliction will give way to glory.
- B. Remember that affliction is temporary, but glory is eternal.
- C. Remember that affliction is light, but glory has great value.

III. Meditate on spiritual rather than physical realities. 18

- A. What we see in this age cannot last.
- B. What God has promised for the age to come will last forever.