

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Prayers

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Scripture Reading

Song Leader

Lord's Supper

Prayers

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Song Leader

Prayers

Invitation

*"This world is not my home I'm just a passing through.
My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue.
The angels beckon me from heaven's open door.
And I can't feel at home in this world anymore."*

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

WWW.TXKCHURCH.COM

GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Think On These Things

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Issue 32

Feather or Lead

Bill Brittenham

I'm sure we have all been asked the question, "Which is heavier? A ton of feathers or a ton of lead?" Perhaps we thought quickly that lead is obviously much heavier than feathers, so the correct answer must be, "lead". But of course, it was then pointed out to us that a "ton" of anything still weighs 2,000 pounds so both the ton of feathers and lead weigh the same. While the first thing to catch our attention was the objects, feathers and lead, the part of the question that was of more importance was the weight. 2 Cor. 4:16-18 is a passage that shows we can similarly focus on the wrong part of our lives.

2 Cor. 4:16-18 *Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the*

things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

We live in the flesh, surrounded by a fleshly world, fleshly people and fleshly concerns. At first thought, it seems reasonable that our thoughts and energies would be focused on fleshly things. But as we were wrong to look at the feathers and lead in our example, those things that are most obvious to us in our lives are not the correct focus for the Christian. Look closely at the contrasts Paul makes:

1. The outer man vs the inner man. Every one of us is getting older. Some are closer to the end than the beginning. While we are younger, and probably in better health, the things of this world often are more appealing to us while eternity seems far away. As our bodies wear and age, we probably think more

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

Please remember **Maxine Burnham** and **Jean Cronce** in your prayers.

Keep **Tara Stinson** and her father, **Dennis Sandlin**, in your prayers.

Nancy Rowe's nephew, Cedrick is still in the hospital but doing better. Her sister is home and doing better.

Jennie Garlock's sister is doing much better.

Roger Clemmons is recovering from successful knee surgery.

Ollie Thomas is home but please keep her and her mother, **Chelsea** in your prayers.

Here is the current schedule of services:

Bible Study:	9:30 AM
Services:	10:15 AM
Kids Only:	5:00 PM
Wednesday:	7:00 PM

Additionally, we are having studies on the life of Paul:

Monday:	7:00 PM
Friday:	7:00 PM

Ladies Bible Class:

Next class will be August 11th.

about what will remain once the outer man is no longer able to house the inner man. What will be our future? Have we prepared the inner man to live in the presence of our God?

2. Decaying vs being renewed day by day. While looking at the things of this world, don't forget to notice that there is decay everywhere. A tree grows in the forest, ages and dies and then rests on the forest floor and decays. If we choose this fleshly world, we are choosing decay. But God promises us that even while living in this decaying world, our inner man can be renewed day by day so that when we leave this world, we will be stronger, more fit and better prepared to spend eternity in heaven.

3. Momentary vs eternal. Many things in this life seem to last forever. A long-term illness or the memories of a tragedy or loss. But by comparison to eternity, there is no real comparison. **(James 4:14)**

4. Light affliction vs weight glory. We all understand this principle. It's better to take a bad tasting medicine than suffer the disease. But Paul is also telling us that the light afflictions we endure for Christ actually are producing an eternal weight of glory in us. God uses things relatively easy and short-lived to build eternal glory for us.

5. The things that are seen vs the things that are not seen. **Heb 11:1** Now *faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.* Remember that the things that we see, or experience with our senses are only temporary. They belong only to this life. Yet the things that

are only seen through the eyes of faith are eternal.

6. Temporal vs. eternal. We want things in the world that last a long time. We shop for cars and appliances that we hope will last. And we value relationships that endure. But we also understand that everything in this world belongs only to this world and will not last forever. We cannot truly understand eternity, but we know it is much longer than temporary.

7. Lose heart vs glory far beyond comparison. Disappointment is a part of this life. Things disappoint. Friends disappoint. Expectations disappoint. Yet God tells us that He is preparing us for a time when there will be no disappointment but an eternal glory that is beyond comparison to this life.

Even from a casual reading of these verses, the huge differences between our fleshly and spiritual beings is very clear. Which would you prefer: Momentary affliction that produces decay and loss of heart or eternal glory that is being renewed day by day and is far beyond comprehension?

In **2 Cor. 4**, Paul is talking about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He explains that God has placed this priceless treasure in earthen vessels, men like himself, so that the power and majesty is seen in the gospel and not the temporary men who proclaim it. Yet even while the messengers of the gospel are persecuted, afflicted and will die, God is preparing them in their service to Him for the glory that awaits them in the life to come. How glorious is the wisdom and might of our God!

Let us beware that we are not like those in **2 Cor. 4:4** in *whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

We, like the apostles and teachers and brethren of the first century can also share in the blessings God has for His children. We can endure this "momentary, light affliction" while we "look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen". Our inner man can be "renewed day by day" and we can look forward to "an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison".

Psalm 39:5 *Behold, You have made my days as handbreadths, And my lifetime as nothing in Your sight; Surely every man at his best is a mere breath.*

1 John 2:15-17 *Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.*