

GROANING IN OUR MORTAL BODY

In our lesson text, Paul mentioned twice “Groaning in Mortal Body” (2 Cor.5:2, 4).

- “For indeed in the tent-house, we groan.” (2 Cor.5:1-3)
- “For indeed while we are in the tent, we groan.” (2 Cor.5:4)

We will study <u>five aspects</u> of Groaning in Mortal Body.
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1. Six ways “groaning in the mortal body” reflects that our earthy body is inferior to our resurrection body.

1st – Our mortal body is “made with hands”, meaning it is earthy and temporal as compared to the resurrection body which is eternal and heavenly (2 Cor.5:1).

2nd – Our resurrection body is a “building from God”, “not made with hands, and eternal in the heavens.” (2 Cor.5:1).

3rd – Our mortal body is compared to a temporary housing. It is the believer’s temporal house that is torn down by physical death (2 Cor.5:1).

4th - In our mortal body, we groan and are burdened, longing to be clothed with our eternal dwelling (our resurrection body) from heaven” (2 Cor.5:2).

5th- In our resurrection body, we “shall not be found naked and unclothed” (2 Cor.5:3-4).

6th - In resurrection body, “the mortal will be swallowed up by life eternal.” (2 Cor.5:4; 1 Cor.15:50-58).

2. Paul mentioned GROANING (stenazo) [sorrow and grief] twice, referring to our mortal body (2 Cor.5:2, 4).

It is interesting that Paul used **two emphatic conjunctions** with “groaning” for doctrinal emphasis:

- The terms “for” and “indeed” (gar and kai) explaining further by giving more detailed information than in (2 Cor.5:1) (2 Cor.5:2-10).
- Paul used them with **groaning** in (2 Cor.5:2) and again in (2 Cor.5:4) and added **burden** (bareo/ (Rev.21:4) giving additional information to (2 Cor.5:1-3).

3. Paul used three different forms of the Greek word for clothed (enduo) to make different doctrinal points.

(2 Cor.5:2) “We groan longing to be clothed (ependuomai) without dwelling from heaven.”

Ependuo - “to be clothed upon (epi/ upon).” The best example would be the Rapture

(1 Cor.15:50-58) “We will not all asleep, but we will all be changed.” (1 Cor.15:51-54) (allasso) [all receive resurrection body].

(2 Cor.5:3) **Enduo** (clothed/ a.m.ptc nplm/ to put on) - Special phrase - “In as much as (ei/ ge/ kai) [as is sure to be the case]. We have put it on (resurrection body), **shall not be found naked.**”

(2 Cor.5:4) - **Ekduo** (unclothed (a.p.infin) [undressed] - “We do not want (ouk theolo/ p.a.ind.1pl) to be unclothed, but to be clothed (ependuo/ a.p.infin).” (2 Cor.5: 2)

4. **Paul's longing was to be clothed with the resurrection body so as not to be unclothed, undressed, or naked (gumnos) (2 Cor.5:3) [without either body].**

Paul is explaining, as much as he is permitted to, about the state of the soul between physical death and receiving one's resurrection body (2 Cor.12:1-10). It is the state of being undressed, unclothed, or naked regarding the body (house for the soul) (Gen.2:7) [man] (Gen.2:11) and [woman] (Gen.3:16) [all mankind].

5. **We will close with these five truths that we can know for certain of:**

1st "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 to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord." (2 Cor.5:6-8)

2nd "But some have **fallen asleep**" (1 Cor.15:6b; Acts 7:60). "Behold, **I tell you a mystery**; we will not all **sleep**, but we will all be **changed**." (1 Cor.15:51/ Rapture)

3rd "But I am hard-pressed from **both directions**, having the **desire to depart and be with Christ**, for that is **very much better**." (Phil.1:23/ 1:20-25) "We groan longing (epipotheo/ p.a.ptc.nplm) to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven." (2 Cor.5:2)

4th "Then those also who have **fallen asleep in Christ** have perished" (1 Cor.15:18) [a false doctrine] ("if no resurrection"). "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are **asleep**, so that you will not **grieve as do the rest who have no hope**." (1 Thess.4:13) (1 Thess. 4:13-18) (unbelievers).

5th Spiritual comfort comes to the spiritually growing believer from the doctrine of the Rapture at the death of the beloved in Christ (1 Cor.15:50-58; 1 Thess.4:13-18). "Therefore comfort (parakaleo/ p.a.impv.2pl) one another with these words." (1 Thess.4:18) (2 Cor.1:3-11)

"To be absent from the mortal body and present with Lord is VERY MUCH BETTER."