



EXPECTATION

**Our Future with
God Is Good**

Paul's Life Didn't Turn Out as He Expected

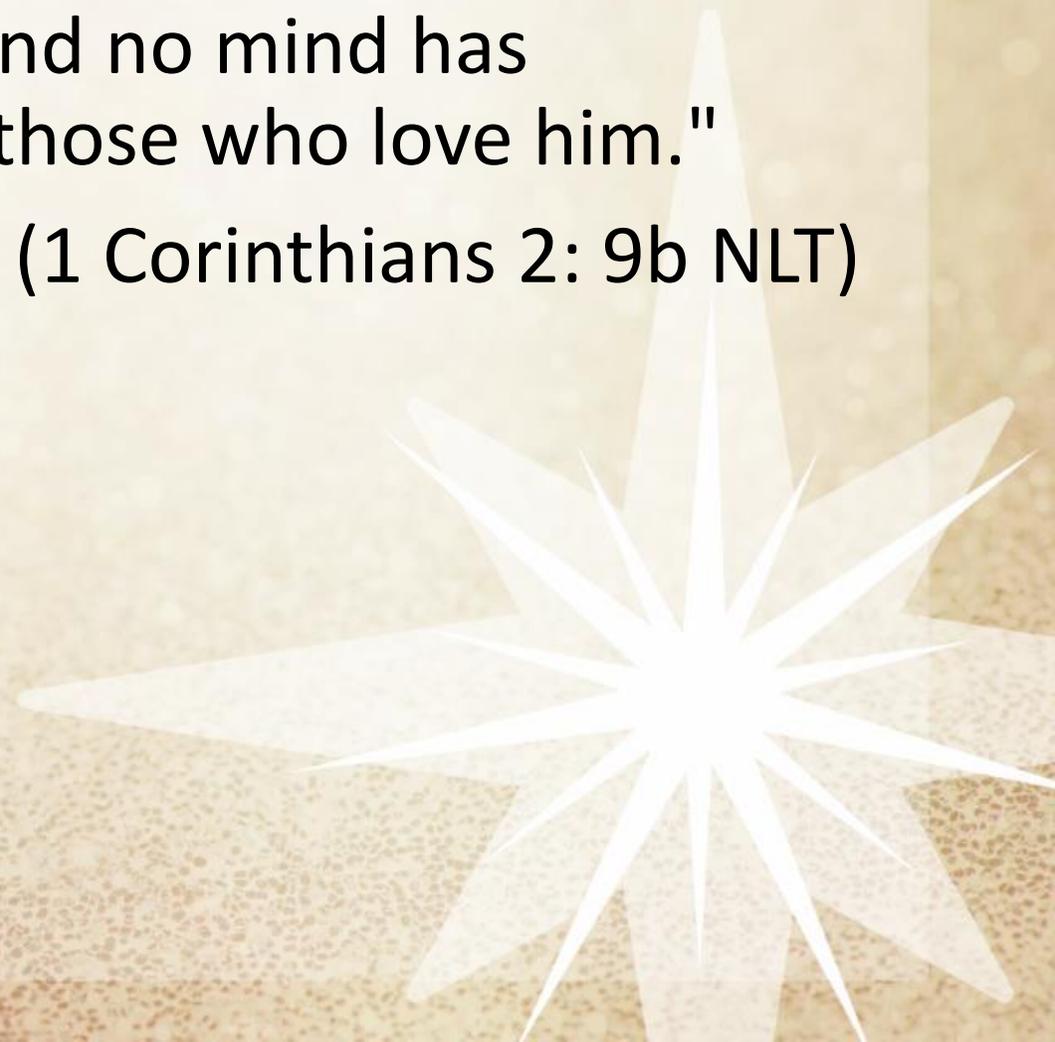
- Saul of Tarsus
- Piety and purity
- ...for *all* Jews
- Instead, God sent Jesus



Paul Wrote Confidently about the Future

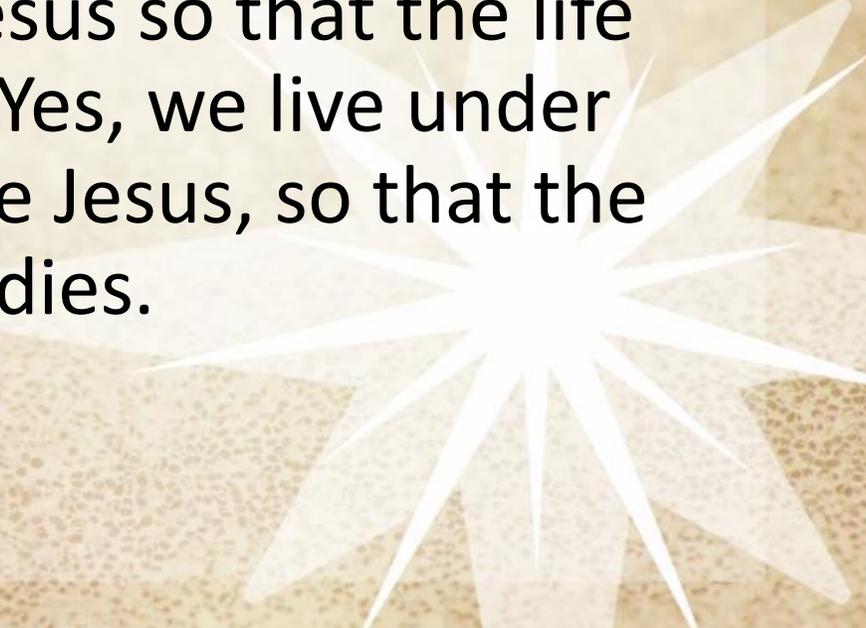
"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."

(1 Corinthians 2: 9b NLT)



Paul Wrote about His Troubles

⁸ We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. ⁹ We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. ¹⁰ Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies. ¹¹ Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies.



Paul Wrote about His Troubles

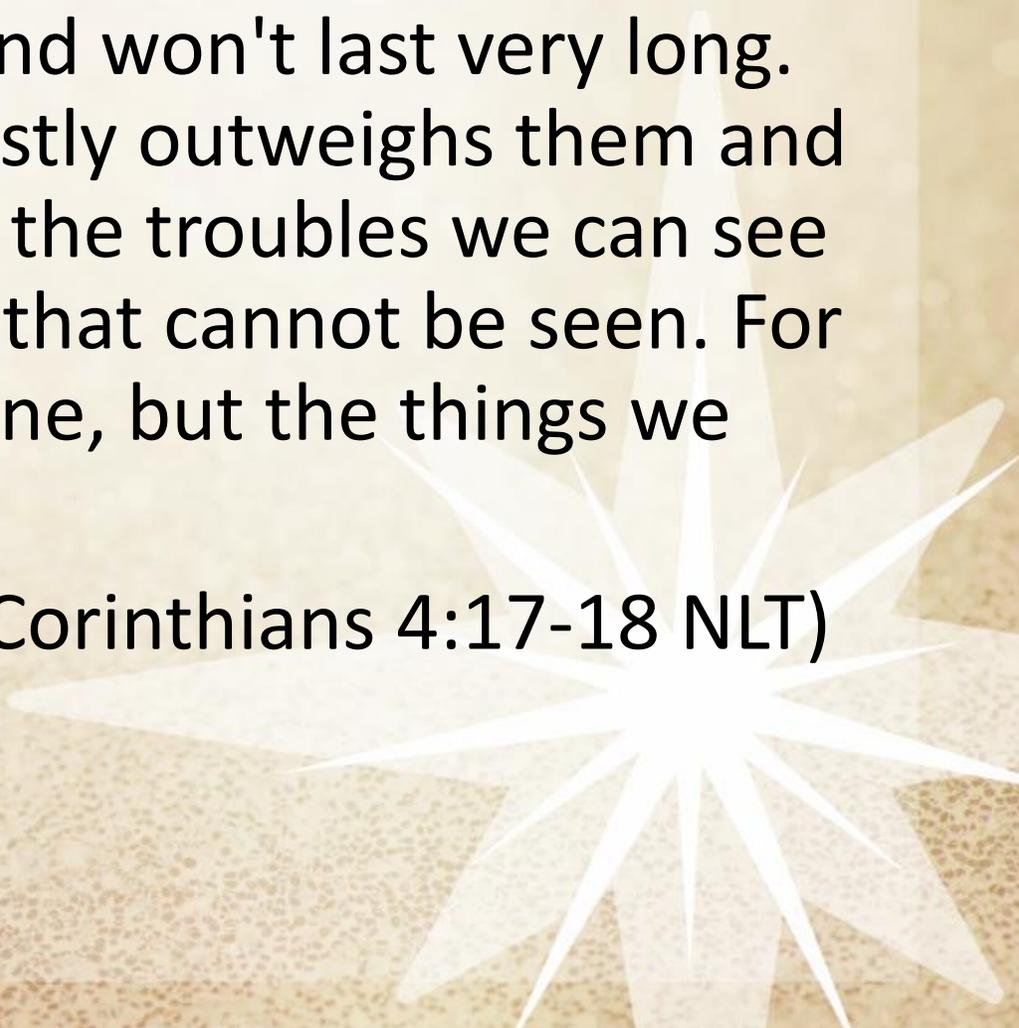
¹² So we live in the face of death, but this has resulted in eternal life for you... ¹⁶ That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. ¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

(2 Corinthians 4:8-12, 16-18 NLT)

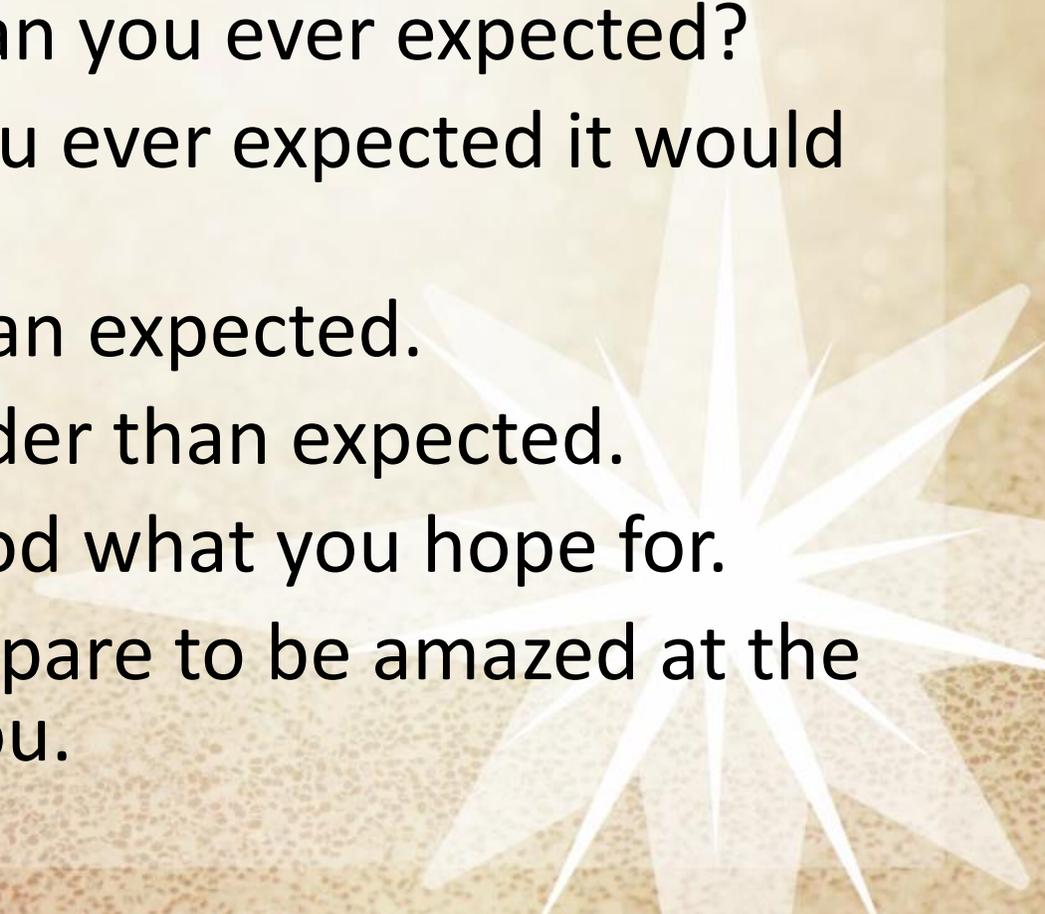
Our Future with God Is Good

¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

(2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NLT)



Challenge

1. Reflect on these questions. Maybe journal your answers.
 - How is your life right now better than you ever expected?
 - How is your life now harder than you ever expected it would be?
 2. Thank God for how life is better than expected.
 3. Tell God about how your life is harder than expected.
 4. Think about your future and tell God what you hope for.
 5. Entrust your future to God and prepare to be amazed at the unexpectedly good future he gives you.
- 



EXPECTATION

**Our Future with
God Is Good**