An Eternal Perspective on Temporary Troubles Tim Maddock

I have a method of studying the Bible that isn't for everybody, but I get a lot out of it. I study a section of scripture, or a theme for an extended period of time, over and over again, extracting much from it, and seeking to apply it to my own life. I never tire of this approach. Recently, I have been drawn to 2 Corinthians, and in particular, chapters 4 and 5. There's a lot to chew on, so grab a fork and plate!

The Bible <u>Never</u> Denies the Problem with Pain (2 Corinthians 4: 7-12)

Scripture Pushes Us to Face our Mortality with the Surpassing Reality of Heaven

2 Corinthians 4: 16 thru 5: 10 Pushes Us to Think Vertically, Not Just Horizontally

- Have I come to terms with the brevity of life?
- Do I believe the True me...my "born again" life...can thrive? Is this happening?
- Do I believe (like Paul) my hardships have a point?

 That someday I will look back on them as not totally devastating...

 ...in comparison to the reality of eternal glory?
- Do I really view life thru the lens of eternity, fighting the urge to zone in on stuff that will burn?
- Do I really believe heaven is real...really long for it...or has this life made heaven irrelevant?
- What if you had a choice between eternal life here or life in heaven?
- Look at v. 9 Would you agree that this is the #1 goal of your life? If not, why not?
- When you think about standing before Christ, as a believer, giving an account of what you have "built your life on" (I Corinthians 3: 10-15), what goes through your mind, heart, and soul?
- How does a person build their life on the foundation of Jesus Christ?

Transform Your Mind...Adjust Your Vision...
Don't Build With Cheap Stuff