Introduction

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 3:14

“Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.”
I Corinthians 9:24-25

Live your life in light of eternity.

What does that mean?
How do we do that?

I. A Daily Renewal. Verse 16

“Therefore we do not lose heart.”

“Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.”

This outer man, not the old man, is wearing out.
But for the Christian, there is another process at work in us. We are being renewed every day as we walk with God.

- We are renewed in our mind as we spend time in God’s Word.
- We are renewed in our spirit as we yield our life to the Holy Spirit to fill us and purify us.

## II. A Future Glory. Verse 17

A daily renewal produces solid lasting glory.

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” Romans 8:18

All the way through this text there are comparisons and contrasts:

- Outward – Inward
- Wasting away – Renewed
- Light – Weighty
- Momentary – Eternal
- Troubles – Glory
- Seen – Unseen
- Temporary – Eternal

He speaks about glory as something that can be added to. God is no one’s debtor.

“I tell you the truth,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.” Mark 10:29-30

One day, even this physical body will be made new.

“The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.” I Corinthians 15:43-44
III. AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE. VERSE 18

“We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.”

Paul had to learn this. It doesn’t come naturally.
When we do see it, it changes the way we live today.

“Live for the line and not the dot.”
Randy Alcorn
Whatever we long for and expect in the future will determine how we live today.
Our hopes determine our habits.

Conclusion

The renewing of Paul’s heart came from something very strange. It came from looking at what he can’t see.

“The unseen reality that sustains Paul’s faith is the glory of God he saw imaged in the crucified and risen Christ. Paul’s confidence in God’s promise that he too would one day share beyond measure in this eternal glory kept him persevering in faith in the midst of adversity.

As a result, he was being transformed ‘with ever-increasing glory’. God had opened Paul’s eyes to the glory of God himself in Christ, so that he had come to see that knowing God was of more value than anything the world has to offer.”
Scott Hafemann

So what do we need?

• DAILY RENEWAL
• FUTURE GLORY
• ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE