

For the week of December 13, 2020

Preacher: Andy Burnham

# Having an Eternal Perspective

1 Peter 5:12-14

The question before us today is: what allowed the apostle Paul to go through the many afflictions and difficulties he faced? What allowed him to go through the many afflictions and difficulties he faced without losing heart and losing hope? Moreover, what can we learn from Paul's life that will help us to go through our own afflictions and difficulties? The answer, at least in part, is provided in today's passage--a passage in which Paul talks about having an eternal perspective.

## Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think people often lose heart and lose hope when they are going through difficulties--especially difficulties, like the current pandemic, that do not go away quickly?
2. What do you think it means to have an eternal perspective--and why might having an eternal perspective help us to go through our current difficulties?
3. What is Paul talking about when he says that our inner selves are being renewed day by day? How exactly does that take place?
4. Paul viewed his current afflictions as light and momentary compared with what lay ahead. Why is it sometimes (or often) hard for us to view our own difficulties the same way?
5. What does Paul mean that our present afflictions are somehow preparing (producing, achieving) future glory?