



## Heartbeats along the way: The Daily-Renewed Heart

*II Cor 4:16. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.*

Paul wrote this to his beloved Corinthian churches. It's part of a passage about having the treasure of the Gospel in clay jars - in our fragile, earthly bodies.

Next week is All Saints Sunday when we remember those who were once among us in clay jars of flesh, but who now belong to the Church Triumphant, where there is no emptiness, no pain and no death; just the glorious joy of being united with our Heavenly Father and with those who were faithful on earth.

My dear friend Bob Hench died recently. He was a faithful serving Christian man who was overjoyed when our three church families united in March 2011. He soon began visiting LAMs and doing many other kindnesses by delivering delicious meals, and by his cheerful presence and optimistic conversation. He was truly interested in the Spring Garden Campus and would visit it frequently to see its progress. He looked forward to worshipping there. Sadly, he was called heavenward, but he was completely prepared for his departure.

Many others of our saints now reside in Heaven. Many of them were also looking forward to worshipping in our new sanctuary and were just as excited as Bob with each new bit of construction news, because, like Bob, they knew the Spring Garden Campus was being built for future generations of Christians.

Like Paul, they did not lose heart, because even though their outer natures were wasting away, their inner beings were being renewed every day. May it be so with us.

*"Dear Jesus, thank you for the Spring Garden Campus and all those working to complete it. Let us remember with joy those saints who had looked forward to this place and are now resting with you. Amen."*

~ cl reynolds

II Corinthians 4. Excerpts.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.... So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal