

an earthly for an heavenly Habitation. “ For we  
 “ know that if our earthly House of this Taber-  
 “ nacle were dissolved, we have a Building of God,  
 “ an House not made with Hands, eternal in the  
 “ Heavens. For in this we groan earnestly, de-  
 “ siring to be cloathed upon with our House  
 “ which is from Heaven†.”

OUR Saviour informed his Apostles, that in his  
 Father’s House were many Mansions to receive  
 them, and all his Followers\* ; St. Paul had told the  
 Corinthians in a former Epistle that the Souls of the  
 Faithful would finally be clothed with spiritual and  
 immortal Bodies || : To both these he seems to  
 allude in these Words, and thence deduces an  
 Argument of Consolation. Our Bodies are frail,  
 and continually verging to decay---they are transient,  
 like occasional, temporary Tabernacles, not per-  
 manent Abodes. Christians are burdened, whilst  
 in them, with various Calamities ; they groan under  
 this oppressive Weight, earnestly desiring and sigh-  
 ing for those everlasting Habitations prepared for  
 them in Heaven, where all their Evils will be  
 removed. Therefore Death need not be dreaded  
 by the Christian, since it would only dissolve this  
 fleeting

† Chap. v. 1, 2. There is some Obscurity in the Connection of  
 the second, third and fourth Verses, chiefly owing to the figurative  
 Terms used by the Apostle. Several eminent Commentators imagine  
 he hints at an Opinion then prevalent among Christians, that our Sa-  
 viour would come to Judgment before that Generation passed away,  
 by which the Faithful, who were then alive, would be exempted from  
 dying, and only *changed*, to prepare them for Glory ; and it is suppo-  
 sed St. Paul here wishes, if it were possible, and the Will of God  
 were such, that this might be the Case with himself. The chief  
 Difficulty is in V. 3. By *cloathed-- and not found naked*, some un-  
 derstand being alive, and not dead or divested of the Body at Christ’s  
 coming ; others, the Graces in general of the Gospel which adorn  
 sincere Christians. The Reader who desires to examine the Passage  
 further may consult MILL, WALL’S *Critical Notes*, LOCKE,  
 WHITBY and DODDRIDGE, on the Place.

\* John xiv. 2.

|| I Corinth. xv. 44, 54.