

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 – God’s Light In Our Hearts.

I. (1-2) We do not lose heart.

We do not lose heart: The idea behind the ancient Greek word for “**lose heart**” is of the “faint-hearted coward” giving up, and this case due to evil pressures.

“If heaven has given you a message, speak it out as...the mouth of God.”

Luke 18:1 - *Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,*

Philippians 3:12 - *Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.*

As we have received mercy:

1 Peter 1:3 - *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

The ancient Greek word translated to **deceitfully means**; “to dilute or adulterate.” Paul didn’t preach a *concealed* gospel (**renouncing the hidden things of shame**) or a *corrupted* gospel (**craftiness... deceitfully**), mixing/watering down the Gospel.

1 Timothy 1:12-13 - *And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.*

II. (3-6) God’s Light In Our Hearts.

If people do not respond to this glorious gospel, it isn’t Paul’s fault or his gospel’s fault. Everyone is responsible for their rejection of the Gospel, so they are lost and perishing. “Those **who are perishing** and for whom the **gospel is veiled** have been **blinded** by Satan, **the god of this age.**”

Satan – (**John 12:31** the ruler of the world).”, (**John 14:30** – the ruler of this world), (**Ephesians 2:2** - the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, **Ephesians 6:12** - rulers of the darkness of this age), and (**1 John 5:19** - whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one).

“The devil is called the god of this age in no other way than Baal was called the god of those who worshipped him.”

Who do not believe: Satan can only blind those **who do not believe**. If you are tired of having your mind **blinded** by **the god of this age**, then put your trust in who Jesus is and what He did for you. Then Satan can't blind you anymore.

We don't preach ourselves...

1 Corinthians 2:2 - *For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.*

2 Timothy 4:2 - *Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.*

The God who commanded light to shine in darkness has shone in our hearts; Paul himself was completely blind to the truth until God broke through the darkness. In fact, when Paul first encountered Jesus, the Lord struck him with a literal blindness that was healed, and his eyes – both spiritually and physically – were opened to see the glory of Jesus Christ in **Acts 9:1-19**.

Genesis 1:3-5 - *Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.*

John 1:5 - *And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*

John 3:19 - *“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

John 8:12 - *Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”*

John 12:35 - *Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.*

John 12:46 - *“I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.*