Message Notes

The Gospel, the veil, and the veiler

Introduction – "Yours in the struggle..."

Today's Message: The Gospel, it's veil, and who is doing the veiling! 2 Corinthians 4:1-4

- 1. Remember the mercy of God 2 Corinthians 4:1a
 - 2 Corinthians 3:7-11
 - 2 Corinthians 3:12-18
- 2. Remember where you came from 2 Corinthians 4:1b
 - 1 Corinthians 15:9-11
 - 1 Timothy 1:13-17
- 3. Chill out. God does the work. 2 Corinthians 4:2
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- 4. The veil.

 2 Corinthians 4:3
 - 2 Corinthians 2:15-16
- 5. The one doing the veiling 2 Corinthians 4:4
 - 1. Who are Satan and Demons?
 - 2. Where do they come from?
 - a. Created Good, but decided to sin against God
 - b. Actually, fallen angels
 - 3. Where are they going?
 - 4. What are their schemes?

Gospel Application - Four Questions.

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

2 Corinthians 4:1-4

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Corinthians 3:7-18

⁷Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, 8will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? 9If the ministry that condemns men is alorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! 10For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. ¹¹And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts! ¹²Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. 13We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. 14But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. 15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the

1 Peter 5:8-9

⁸Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Lord's glory, are being transformed into his

likeness with ever-increasing glory, which

comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS



BUDEZIUA RETURNS







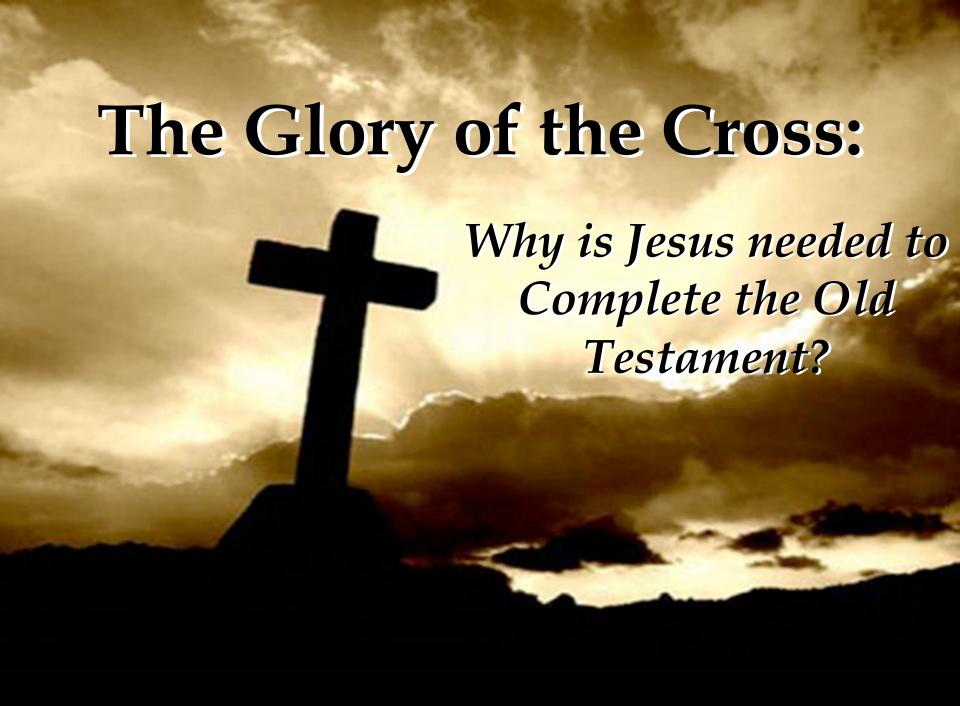
2 Corinthians 4:1-4

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1. Remember the mercy of God

2 Corinthians 4:1a



2 Corinthians 3:7-11

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2 Corinthians 3:12-18

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¹⁶But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.



RELIGION 1/S.

The Gospel

2. Remember where you came from

2 Corinthians 4:1b

Paul, the sinner

1 Corinthians 15:9-11

⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

Paul, the sinner

1 Timothy 1:13-17

¹³Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2. Remember where you came from

2 Corinthians 4:1b

3. Chill out, God does the work.

2 Corinthians 4:2

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3. Remember to chill, God does the work.

2 Corinthians 4:2

3. Remember to chill, God does the work.

2 Corinthians 4:2

4. The gospel is veiled

2 Corinthians 4:3

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Corinthians 2:15-16

¹⁵ For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. ¹⁶ To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life.



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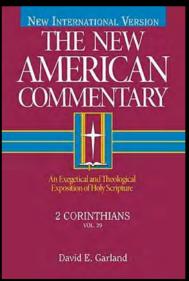


An Exegetical and Theological Exposition of Holy Scripture

2 CORINTHIANS
VOL. 29

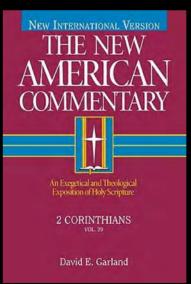
David E. Garland





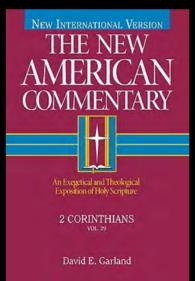
What veils his gospel? That which Paul absolutely refuses to compromise — the scandal of the cross (1 Cor 1:23; 2:2). The veiling has nothing to do with the particular way Paul communicates the gospel – that it is too cryptic, too heavy, or too lackluster. It has to do instead with the fundamental nature of a gospel that strikes Greeks as foolishness and Jews as scandalous. This fundamental nature is that God defeats death and evil and reconciles the world through Christ's sacrifice, which puts an end to all human boasting.





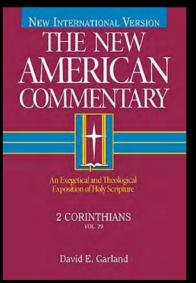
The Messiah whom God sent to save Israel was not a figure of glory who deposed Israel's pagan oppressors and restored her fortunes in the world. Instead, he suffered and died on a cross, and such a fate "made a mockery of Jewish expectations" and "effectively nailed those expectations to a cross." He had become a "stone of stumbling and a rock of offense" (Rom 9:33, NASB; Mark 12:10-11). The Christian gospel offends those who want a more "tasteful" salvation plan.





Paul had suffered from the same blindness that darkens the vision of some in Israel. He looked at the promised Christ from a fleshly perspective (5:16) – from selfseeking desires and from wishful thinking about the glories of the Messiah who would exalt Israel to worldly prominence and himself as one who outshone all his contemporaries in zeal. His zealous campaign to be a good Jew kept him from being what God intended him to become, an apostle of Christ to the Gentiles... He had to empty himself to be crucified with Christ and put to death, discard as rubbish his self-centered desires and passions (even for the law). He could no longer live for himself but for Christ and others.





Those who look through the glass of a mefirst culture can see no glory or power in giving one's life for others. The gospel Paul proclaims does promise glory, but not through the acquisition of worldly power. It comes instead through unconditional surrender of one's power to God. This divine paradigm so conflicts with human ways of thinking and acting that few ever recognize it for the truth that it is.

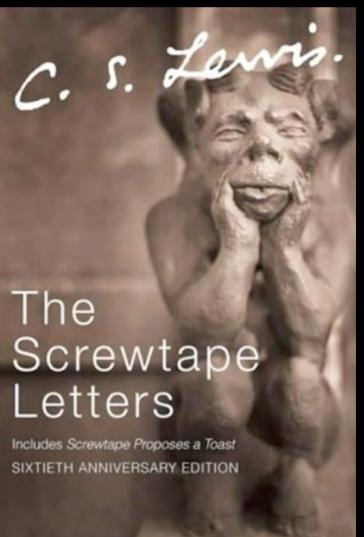
~ David Garland, 2 Corinthians, pages 208-209

5. The one doing the veiling

2 Corinthians 4:1-4

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

"There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive



and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight. The sort of script which is used in this book can be very easily obtained by anyone who has once learned the knack; but disposed or excitable people who might make a bad use of it shall not learn it from me."

~ C. S. Lewis, Screwtape Letters, Preface

1. Who are Satan and demons?

Satan (the satan)

Satan (the satan)

The devil = diabolis

Satan (the satan)

The devil = diabolis

Beelzebub

Satan (the satan)

The devil = diabolis

Beelzebub

The serpent

Murderer / Liar

John 8:44

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Roaring Lion

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

The accuser of the brethren

The accuser of the brethren

The prince/god of this world

The accuser of the brethren

The prince/god of this world

The Prince of the power of air

The accuser of the brethren

The prince/god of this world

The Prince of the power of air

Tempter

The accuser of the brethren

The prince/god of this world

The Prince of the power of air

Tempter

Dragon

The accuser of the brethren

The prince/god of this world

The Prince of the power of air

Tempter

Dragon

The Evil One

2. Where do they come from?

2. Where do they come from?

a. Created Good, but decided to sin against God -

Luke 10:18

He replied, "I saw **Satan** fall like **lightning** from heaven.

2. Where do they come from?

b. Actually, fallen angels

2 Peter 2:4

⁴For if God did not spare angels when they sinned . . .

Jude 6

⁶And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home. . .

3. Where are they going?

Matthew 8:28-29

²⁸When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. ²⁹"What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"

3. Where are they going?

Revelation 20:7-10

⁷When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog — to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

a. Blind people to the truth of God

2 Corinthians 4:4

⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

b. Resist the church and persecute it

Matthew 16:18

¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

c. Divisiveness

1 Corinthians 11:17-19

¹⁷In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. ¹⁸In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. ¹⁹No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval.

d. Promote Rotten Theology

1 Timothy 4:1

¹The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

e. Ruin the church (and our lives) by leading us into bitterness and unforgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:10, 11

¹⁰If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgive—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

f. Hinder the expansion of the work of God

1 Thessalonians 2:17-18

¹⁷But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. ¹⁸For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan stopped us.

g. Take away your passion for Christ and into the lie of sin

2 Corinthians 11:3

³But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

5. How to fight

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Do you hate, resist and put yourself in the best possible way to fight the god of this age?

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Do you love the message of the gospel?