

11 Corinthians 4:1-7 We Do Not Lose Heart!

1/18/2025

Quick review of II Cor. 3 - Nothing can stop the work of the Holy Spirit in the heart of a true and willing believer!

The N.C. was established with the death of Christ, and proved its ability to transform a heart by the real, physical, bodily resurrection of Christ. When we are willing to turn our back on the old life (to repent), and believe what He did was done for us, He places His righteousness into our account. We now live our life "in" Christ, not through our own efforts of self-achievement.

II Cor. 5:21/ I Cor. 1:30/ Colossians 2:10/ I Peter 3:18/ Romans 8:1-4, 10-11

When you truly believe, transformation begins.

How does that transformation happen? The Holy Spirit takes the word of God that you are studying and absorbing, and transforms all aspects of your life as we surrender daily to His will, (Romans 12:1-2)

3:18 The New Covenant transformation. Unveiled, unrestrained, from one level to the next level. This the O.C., in its temporary assignment could not do.

Text Today: II Corinthians 4:1-7

4:1 "We don't lose heart!" WHY NOT? Because eternal life is a free gift! Cannot be earned and cannot be taken away.

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is
eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

The "ministry" is effective because it is God doing the work through obviously weak, (and unimpressive in speech and appearance) persons. This gives all the glory to God.

We are to simply stay in the flow of the Holy Spirit working.

4:2 No Madison Avenue, slick presentation tricks. With false teachers it is all about appearances. You should be the first to say, "That guy is not for real." **Check. 2:17**

Once we have adjusted ourselves to the moving of the Holy Spirit who is a permanent resident in us, the message is clear coming out of us. It appeals to every man's conscience. They want what we have while we are not thinking too much about it at all. We are just trying to please the Lord and He is doing all kinds of things through us as we just focus on loving Him.

Some may say: "Well I want the power of God working through me,,,, and I want to look good doing it, and gain honor and respect! To be seen as "well-adjusted" in this life. I want people to know I am smart and clever! I want popularity and to show I have something in this life to impress!

All I can say is: "Boy did you get into the wrong life! " Lol.

The world is *blinded to Christ* because of just these attitudes I just described! And if you hold onto these you will never shine out enough for Christ to make much of a difference!

I wish I could hear you say with me right now, "That is not going to happen to me!"

The world system knows its own, are you part of that world sickness still?

4:3-4 If this is the case, then how did we get saved, because we were like this once?

Don't be discouraged by this at all! This is not a locked-out situation. These sorry Corinthians were being saved left and right. People of all religions are being saved in numbers like we have never seen! The Holy Spirit can break through and reach any person!

John 16:8 "He convicts the WORLD." **Why?** To save them!

Romans 5:20-21 I believe this completely! Do you? " ,,, where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,"

4:5-7 The surrendered believer cannot help but shine out for Christ!

In our weakness as "earthen vessels," His light shines out!

You do not mind being looked at as "weak," if it glorifies Christ do you?