



Are You a Cracked Pot or Just a Crackpot?

Understanding the text (2 Corinthians 4:4-15)

...the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

⁵ For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in clay pots, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves.

⁸ *we are* afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

¹¹ For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

¹² So death works in us, but life in you.

¹³ But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you. ¹⁵ For all things *are* for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.

Principles for Application

- 1. The light of the gospel is the glory of Christ, the image of God**
- 2. God shines in our hearts the light of the knowledge of His glory in Christ**
- 3. This treasure of Christ's glory is stored in the clay pots of our bodies**
- 4. God breaks the pot so that the light can shine out**
- 5. We experience the dying of Jesus so that we can experience the resurrection life of Jesus**
- 6. We experience the resurrection life of Jesus now and one day will be gloriously raise up with Jesus**