

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for January 10, 2010

No Quitting!
2 Corinthians 4:3-4

What things, according to 2 Corinthians 4:1-18, did Paul endure while boldly proclaiming and defending the message of the new covenant that manifested his no-quit attitude?

The first thing that Paul endured that manifested his no-quit attitude was rejection (2 Corinthians 4:1-6).

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, highlighted two different factors to explain to his readers why so many people were rejecting his message.

The first factor that Paul highlighted to help his readers understand why so many people were rejecting the gospel message was that the gospel message was veiled to those who were perishing (2 Corinthians 4:3).

When Paul spoke of the gospel message being veiled to those who were perishing in 2 Corinthians 4:3, he was once again alluding to the veil of Moses that was used in a figurative way in 2 Corinthians 3:14-15 to picture a state of hard-heartedness.

The second factor that Paul highlighted to help his readers understand why so many people were rejecting the gospel message was that the minds of the unbelieving had been blinded by the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4).

The god of this “world” (AION), or in other words more literally the god of this “age,” is Satan (Matthew 4:8).

Even though Satan has a great deal to say about what happens in this present age, and therefore can in a sense be called “the god of this age,” it is more an illusion than a reality (1 Timothy 1:17).

The light of the gospel is a manifestation of the glory of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Not only is the gospel a manifestation of the glory of Christ, it is a manifestation of the glory of God since Christ is the very image of God.

May God give us the grace to shine the light of the gospel of Christ into the darkness of men’s hearts and minds no matter how many times we may have been rejected.