

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for January 31, 2010

No Quitting!
2 Corinthians 4:5-6

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).

When Paul used the word “for” (GAR) at the beginning of 2 Corinthians 4:5, he in effect was continuing his argument that those who reject his ministry are not revealing his insufficiency but their own “blindness.”

Paul and his associates, when proclaiming the gospel, did not present themselves as the foundation and object of faith but rather they presented Christ the Lord as the foundation and object of faith.

Paul and his associates had continuously emphasized to the Corinthians that Christ is alone Lord, both over the church and over the world (1 Corinthians 1:2,3,7; 5:4; 6:11; 8:6; 9:1; 11:26-27).

When Paul said that he and his associates had declared themselves bondservants of the Corinthians “for Jesus’ sake,” he was simply saying that this declaration was exactly what Jesus, their Lord, would have expected from them.

Paul, in referencing Genesis 1:3, wanted his readers to understand the physical darkness that preceded God’s creative activity could not have been overcome apart from His intervention.

When God shines His light on a sinner’s heart they are able to see the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

When God shines His light on a sinner’s heart they are able to see Christ as God incarnate, the visible expression of the invisible God, thus leading them to embrace Him as their Savior and Lord.

May God give us the grace to continue to share the gospel, even when we are rejected, knowing that God’s light can penetrate the darkness of the darkest heart if He so chooses.