

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for February 14, 2010

No Quitting
2 Corinthians 4:7

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).

The second thing that Paul endured that manifested his no quit attitude was a variety of different sufferings (2 Corinthians 4:7-18).

The conjunction “but” introduced a contrast between the “treasure” that Paul alluded to at the end of verse 6 and “earthen vessels” where the treasure was kept.

The “treasure” is the “the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ” for that is what Paul referenced at the end of verse 6.

The light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ is a reference to the gospel.

God wants us to preach the gospel (Mark 16:15).

Those who have received the gospel and have been commanded to share the gospel should view themselves simply as earthen vessels.

Paul used the metaphor of the earthen vessels to picture the inherent frailty, weakness and mortality of those who had been entrusted with the glorious treasure of the gospel of Christ.

God gave the ministers of the new covenant the treasure of the gospel and commanded them to share it with the world even though they were weak so that there would be no question about whose power was accomplishing the work.

May God give us the grace as earthen vessels to recognize our weakness so that when we go forth as ministers of the new covenant we might go forth in the surpassing greatness of His power rather than in the power of our weakness.