

(2 Corinthians 4:9-18)

CORINTHIANS

THE *Second Letter* OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Cast Down But Not Conquered

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18 (NKJV)

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. ⁸ We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18 (NKJV)

¹¹ For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So then death is working in us, but life in you. ¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18 (NKJV)

¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. ¹⁶

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Treasure In Clay Pots - (4:7)



2 Corinthians 4:7 (NKJV)

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

- ◆ **The treasure** — *The gospel of Jesus Christ - (cf. 4:3-6; Rom 1:16,17; Mat 13:44)*
- ◆ **In earthen vessels** — *The preachers / apostles who presented the gospel to men - (cf. 4:5,6; 5:1; Eph 3:1-8; Gal 1:7-16)*
- ◆ **The Power** — *No one could question the source of the gospel & its power. (cf. 3:5,6; 1 Cor. 1:18-21; 2:3-5; 3:7; Isa 55:8-11)*

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)



2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (NKJV)

⁸ We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; *we are perplexed, but not in despair;* ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—

- ◆ **Hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed;** — (cf. 2 Cor 1:8-10; 7:5; Ps 56:2,3)
- ◆ **Perplexed,** (*to be at a loss, not knowing what to do*) **but not in despair** — (*to renounce hope*)
- ◆ **Persecuted,** (*Acts 9:23,24,29; 13:45; 14:2,4-6; etc.*) **but not forsaken** — (*4:14; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16,17*)
- ◆ **Struck down,** (*11:23; Acts 14:19*) **but not destroyed** — (*Acts 14:20*)

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)



2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (NKJV)

⁸ We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; *we are perplexed, but not in despair;* ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—

Romans 8:35–37 (NKJV)

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶

As it is written: *“For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”* ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)



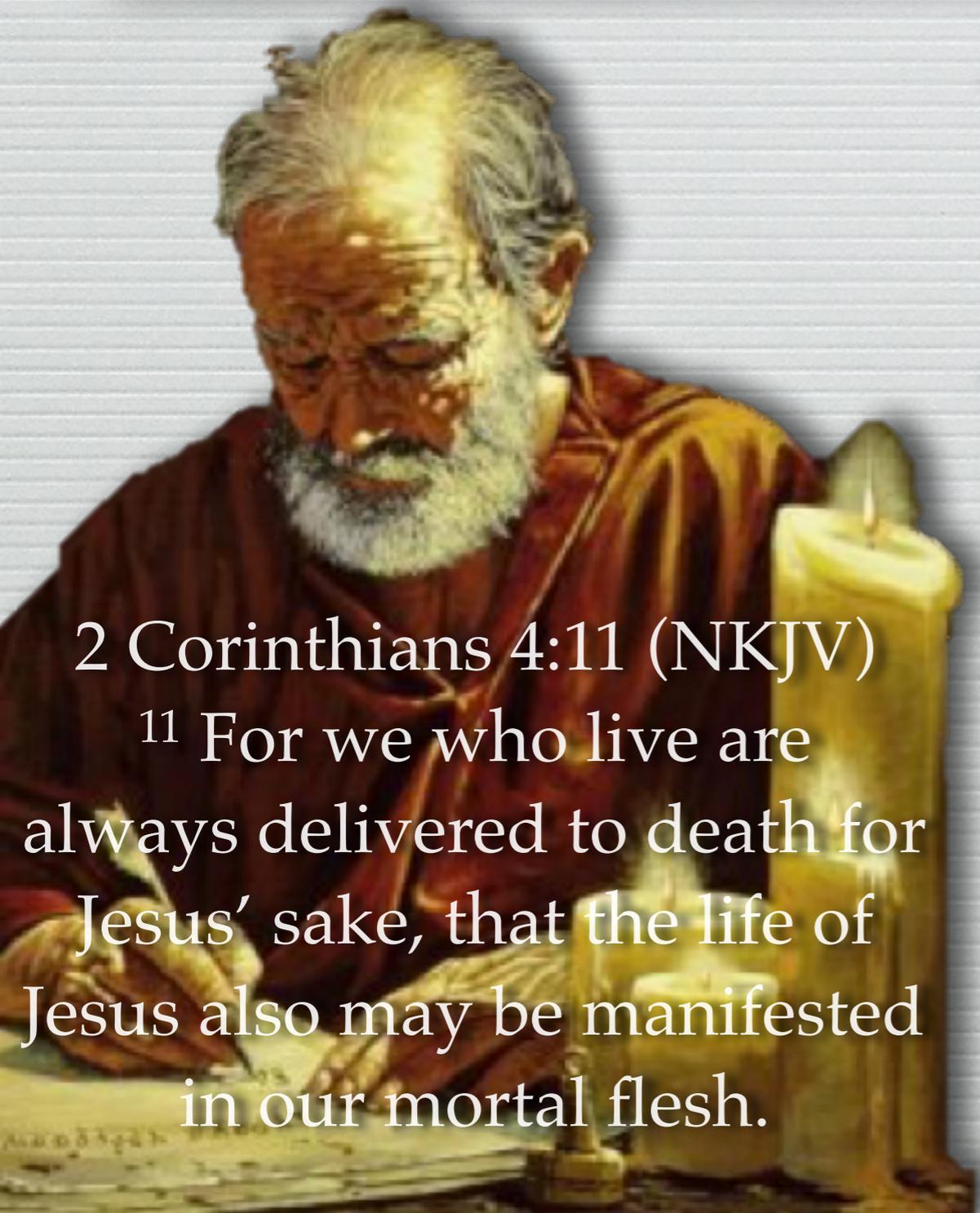
2 Corinthians 4:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

- ◆ **The evil that crucified Jesus was now directed at the apostles –** (*cf. 1:5, 9; Ro. 8:17, 18; Ga. 6:17; Phi. 3:10, 11; Col. 1:24; John 15:20,21*)
- ◆ **He suffered so that Christ be proclaimed by him –** The genuineness of his apostleship & message is manifested by the extent of his sufferings (2 Cor. 11:23–24) and his weakness (11:30; 12:5; 13:4).

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)



2 Corinthians 4:11 (NKJV)

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

- ◆ The verse contains a reassertion and amplification of what he has just said.
- ◆ Paul suffered for Jesus' sake - i.e., in service to Christ - (*cf. 5:15; Philippians 2:17,18; 3:8-11*)
- ◆ Paul believed what he taught and lived accordingly, so that through his suffering others may also receive the joyful hope he embraced — *“¹² So then death is working in us, but life in you.”*

Cast Down But Not Conquered

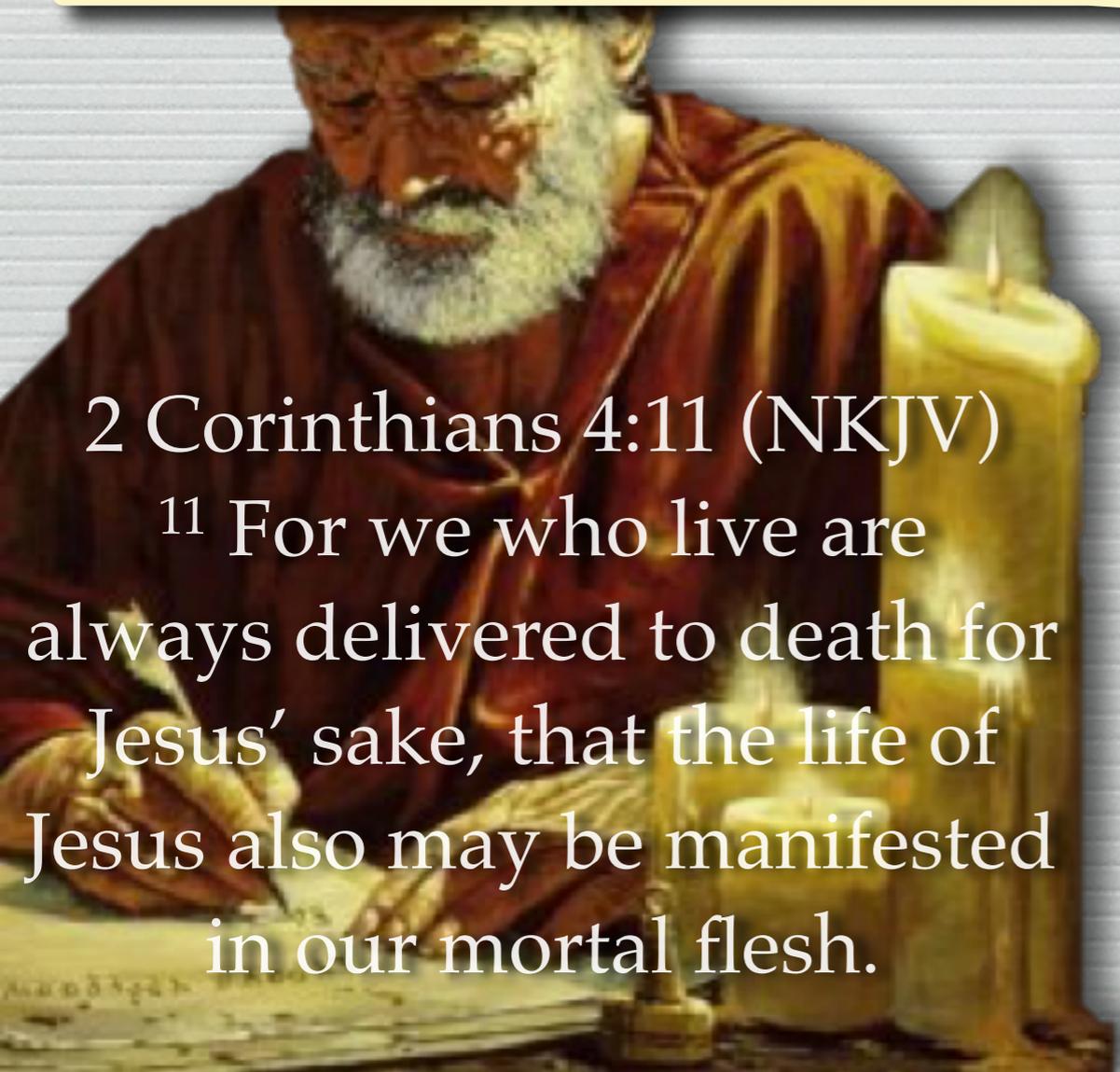
Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)

¹⁰ I believed, therefore I spoke,
“I am greatly afflicted.” —
Psalm 116:10 (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 4:13–15 (NKJV)
¹³ And since we have the same spirit
of faith, according to what is
written, “*I believed and therefore I
spoke,*” we also believe and
therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He
who raised up the Lord Jesus will
also raise us up with Jesus, and will
present *us* with you. ¹⁵ For all things
are for your sakes, that grace,
having spread through the many,
may cause thanksgiving to abound
to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:11 (NKJV)

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



Cast Down But Not Conquered

Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)



2 Cor. 5:1-4
John 11:25,26
1 Cor 6:14
Romans 8:17-30

2 Corinthians 4:11 (NKJV)

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

2 Corinthians 4:13-15 (NKJV)

¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "*I believed and therefore I spoke,*" we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. ¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Frail Vessels Declaring Life - (4:8-15)

2 Timothy 2:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

2 Corinthians 4:11 (NKJV)

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

2 Corinthians 4:13-15 (NKJV)

¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "*I believed and therefore I spoke,*" we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. ¹⁵ For all things *are* for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Keeping Spiritual Perspective - (4:16-18)



2 Corinthians 4:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day.

- ◆ Not only did Paul's faith move him to speak, regardless of earthly consequences, it also enabled him to endure - (4:1; *Phili 4:8-13*)
- ◆ While physically he grew weaker, spiritually he experienced renewal day by day - (cf. 3:18; *Rom. 12:2; Isa 40:31*)

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Keeping Spiritual Perspective - (4:16-18)



2 Corinthians 4:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory,

- ◆ Suffering has a role in spiritual growth – (*cf. 1 Peter 1:6; Jam 1:3-5*).
- ◆ Paul compared the sufferings he had experienced, severe as they were (2 Cor. 11:23–29), to light and momentary troubles.
- ◆ They were nothing in view of the eternal glory that would be his when he would be in Jesus’ “presence” (4:14) and would be like Him (1 Cor. 15:49; Phil 3:21; 1 John 3:2).

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Keeping Spiritual Perspective - (4:16-18)

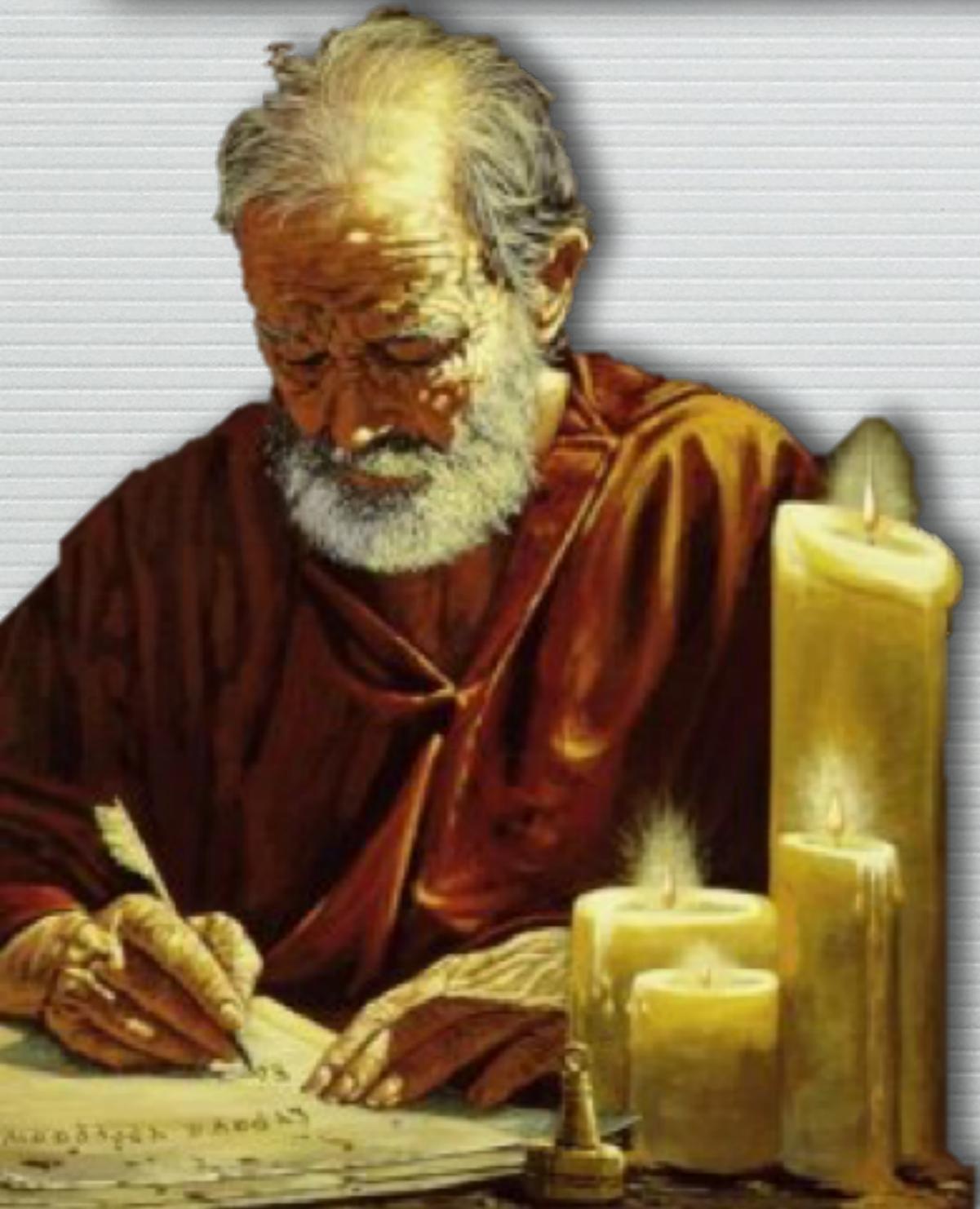


2 Corinthians 4:18 (NKJV)
18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

- ◆ This eternal perspective and hope sustained Paul in the midst of the temporary sufferings that marked his ministry. (1 Cor. 7:31).
- ◆ What is seen (*the material*) is temporary, but what is unseen (*the spiritual*) is eternal.
- ◆ The temporal will be replaced by a “glory that will never fade away” (1 Peter 5:4), an “eternal glory in Christ” (1 Peter 5:10)

Cast Down But Not Conquered

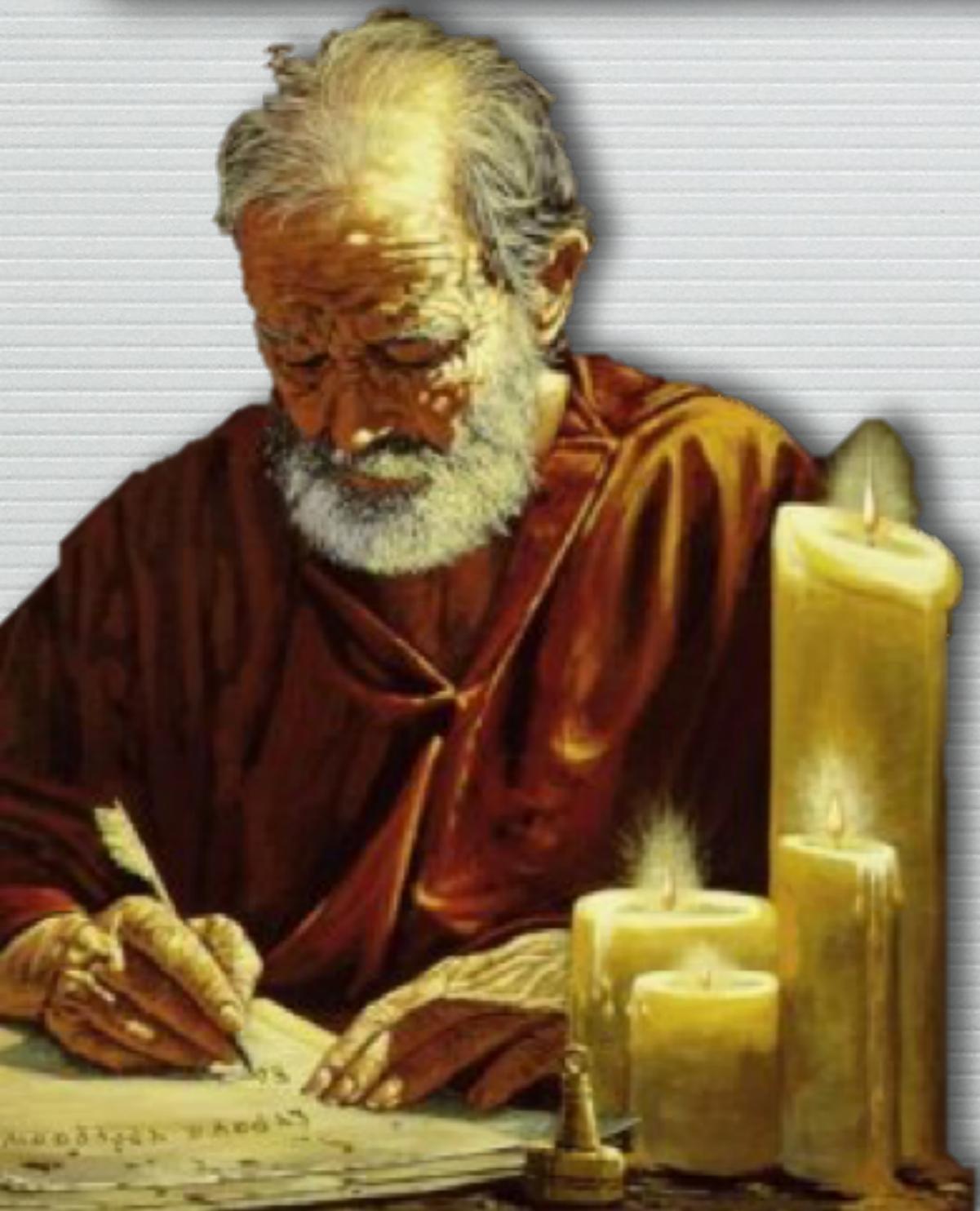
WHAT IS OUR PERSPECTIVE?



- ◆ Do we see the glory and value of the gospel of Jesus Christ?
- ◆ Is our faith strong enough to move us to speak the things of God?
- ◆ Is our faith strong enough to help us see beyond the pain and hardships of this life?

Cast Down But Not Conquered

WHAT IS OUR PERSPECTIVE?



- ◆ Our aim is that you come to have the same faith & hope Paul had?
- Obedient
- Boldness to speak
- Endurance despite all obstacles
- Eyes firmly fixed on the heavenly reward given to the faithful

(2 Corinthians 4:9-18)

CORINTHIANS

THE *Second Letter* OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Cast Down But Not Conquered

Charts by Don McClain

Prepared & preached August 14, 2016

West 65th Street church of Christ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 /
501-568-1062 / Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

Prepared using Keynote 2014 – More PPT & Audio Sermons:

<http://w65stchurchofchrist.org/coc/>

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-5 (NKJV)

¹ I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: ² Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;