



## The God of This World

By Ken Terry on April 26, 2022

### TODAY'S READING: 2 Corinthians 4

Some of us feel that when we share the gospel message we are wasting our time. People seem hardened in their spirit, and they refuse to listen to biblical reasoning regarding why there is so much evil and wickedness in the world. They throw their hands up to why people value life with depraved indifference. I think the apostle Paul had this in mind when he penned this epistle. The people would not listen to him. They listened more to the false teachers of that time. The issue was not Paul's antiquated message or the messenger, but the evil that permeated the world. *"But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them"* (2 Corinthians 4:3-4 NKJV).

That same god is still carrying on with the work of deceiving and turning men and women away from God. However, we cannot allow ourselves to fall into despair! We must remain focused and become the bondservants as identified in the passage. Our primary goal and objectives should be forsaking our own prideful ambitions and selfish tendencies as they relate to serving and to surrender. Allow the light and love of Christ to shine in and through us. We are the called in Christ. We must proclaim these wonderful things of God, for Christ's sake, *"For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"* (2 Corinthians 4:6).

This is the hidden treasure that has indwelled the believer. We are the earthen vessels that house the goodness, wisdom and power of God—His Holy Spirit. For this reason, never allow yourselves to become overwhelmed by this world or have a defeated disposition. He who resides in you is far greater than he who lives in the world. Therefore, shake off the worries and anxieties of this world. Listen to how the apostle Paul encourages us, *"We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—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 4:8-10 NKJV).

Yes, my friends, Satan is very real. He is the tempter, the liar, the deceiver, and puppeteer who pulls all the strings in our world. Every evil and wicked act stems from him and his demons. We will suffer as our Lord and Savior suffered. However, Paul gives us great clarity of heart and mind as our current condition relates to eternity, *"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 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 4:16-17 NKJV).

**PRAYER:** Our Father in heaven, Creator and Sustainer of the universe, we thank You for Your Word and for Jesus. We thank You, Father, for not forsaking us when we were unlovable and evil walking this earth. Thank You for imparting Your Spirit in us, transforming us into the image of Jesus. Father, help us in this world. We know we will have trouble; but, Father, please allow your Holy Spirit to walk alongside us and remind us of all Your promises in Christ Jesus. Make this be our focus and level of Christ-mindedness. Father, we ask all these things in the mighty name of Jesus, amen.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** 2 Corinthians 5

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