

2 Corinthians 4

v1 - mercy	(noun)	kindness to not punish someone who deserves to be punished
v1 - ministry	(noun)	service of God
v2 - renounced	(verb)	declared publicly that you will no longer behave in a certain way
v2 - deception	(noun)	the act of deliberately causing someone to believe something false
v2 - distort	(verb)	represent a fact or idea in an untrue way
v2 - conscience	(noun)	inner sense of right and wrong
v3 - veiled	(adjective)	disguised; covered with a thin soft cloth (a veil)
v3 - perishing	(verb)	dying (‘Those who are perishing’ are people who have not trusted in Jesus.)
v4 - gospel	(noun)	the good news that people can be in right relationship with God through trusting in Jesus
v4 - glory	(noun)	fame, admiration
v7 – treasure	(noun)	something that is very valuable
v7 – jars of clay	(noun)	



v7 – all-surpassing	(adjective)	outstanding; far better than anything else
v8 – crushed	(adjective)	pressed very hard so that its shape is destroyed
v8 – perplexed	(adjective)	confused, worried
v8 – in despair	(adjective)	feeling that everything is wrong and nothing will improve
v9 – persecuted	(adjective)	treated cruelly and unfairly because of your religion, nationality or gender
v9 – abandoned	(adjective)	left all alone when in trouble
v9 – destroyed	(adjective)	damaged so much that it is completely ruined
v11 – ‘for Jesus’ sake’		for the purpose of serving Jesus
v11 – mortal	(adjective)	will not live forever
v13 – faith	(noun)	trust in God, dependence on God
v14 – raised	(verb)	brought someone back to life after they have died
v15 – thanksgiving	(noun)	the act of saying thanks
v15 – overflow	(verb)	having so much of something that the quantity is more than can be contained

v16 – outwardly (adverb)	on the outside; able to be seen by others
v16 – ‘wasting away’	becoming extremely weak
v17 – momentary (adjective)	lasting only a short time
v17 – eternal (adjective)	lasting forever; will never end
v17 – outweighs (verb)	is of greater significance and importance than something else

2 Corinthians 4 (New International Reader’s Version)

¹ So because of God’s mercy, we have work to do. He has given it to us. And we don’t give up. ² Instead, we have given up doing secret and shameful things. We don’t twist God’s word. In fact, we do just the opposite. We present the truth plainly. In the sight of God, we make our appeal to everyone’s sense of what is right and wrong. ³ Suppose our good news is covered with a veil. Then it is veiled to those who are dying. ⁴ The god of this world has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe. They can’t see the light of the good news that makes Christ’s glory clear. Christ is the likeness of God. ⁵ The message we preach is not about ourselves. Our message is about Jesus Christ. We say that he is Lord. And we say that we serve you because of Jesus. ⁶ God said, “Let light shine out of darkness.” He made his light shine in our hearts. His light gives us the light to know God’s glory. His glory is shown in the face of Christ.

⁷ Treasure is kept in clay jars. In the same way, we have the treasure of the good news in these earthly bodies of ours. That shows that the mighty power of the good news comes from God. It doesn’t come from us. ⁸ We are pushed hard from all sides. But we are not beaten down. We are bewildered. But that doesn’t make us lose hope. ⁹ Others make us suffer. But God does not desert us. We are knocked down. But we are not knocked out. ¹⁰ We always carry around the death of Jesus in our bodies. In that way, the life of Jesus can be shown in our bodies. ¹¹ We who are alive are always in danger of death because we are serving Jesus. This happens so that his life can also be shown in our earthly bodies. ¹² Death is at work in us. But life is at work in you.

¹³ It is written, “I believed, and so I have spoken.” We have that same spirit of faith. So we also believe and speak. ¹⁴ We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead. And he will also raise us up with Jesus. And he will present both you and us to himself. ¹⁵ All this is for your benefit. God’s grace is reaching more and more people. So they will become more and more thankful. They will give glory to God.

¹⁶ We don’t give up. Our bodies are becoming weaker and weaker. But our spirits are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ Our troubles are small. They last only for a short time. But they are earning for us a glory that will last forever. It is greater than all our troubles. ¹⁸ So we don’t spend all our time looking at what we can see. Instead, we look at what we can’t see. That’s because what can be seen lasts only a short time. But what can’t be seen will last forever.