

Who Am I? Part IV

"A Clay Jar"

2 Corinthians 4:1-15

Going Beyond the sermons into the Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on October 7, 2018

Entering In:

Where do you store your "treasures"?

1. "Therefore ... we have this ministry" – to what *ministry* is Paul referring?

Paul also started 3:12 with the word *therefore*: "Therefore ... we have such a hope" – to what *hope* is he referring?

What conclusion does he state with each *therefore*? How are they related?

2. What three things do Paul and his associates *not* do? (verses 1-2)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Give examples of how ministries might use the following devices of men.

- secret/shameful ways
- deception
- distortion of the Word

Why might people minister in such ways as these?

3. What do Paul and his companions do instead of losing heart and of using deception, respectively?

What does it mean to commend oneself to a man's conscience?

What is in a man's conscience that makes it the best target for the Gospel message?

Why do you think Paul ends the sentence with "in the sight of God"?

To what do you appeal when you bear testimony of Christ to those you meet in this world?

4. What happens when the gospel is given to the perishing? (v.3)

How does Paul explain why not all who hear the Gospel message respond favorably (with faith and repentance)?

People give all kinds of reasons why they do not want to follow Christ. Fill in the blanks with some of the common objections, then add a couple of your own that you have heard.

- The Church is full of _____
- All the Church wants is my _____
- I can't believe in a God who _____
- Other:
- Other:

What answer do you have for any of these objections?

5. Fill in the blanks from verse 5. "For we do not preach _____, but _____ as Lord, and _____ as your *servants* for _____ sake."

How do the following verses make what Paul says in v.5 more down to earth?

- v.10
- v.11
- v.12
- v.13

6. What is the treasure? (v.7)

Do you have the treasure in you? If so, how did you come to possess it? (v.6)

Why do we have this treasure in jars of clay? [Give at least two reasons]

7. Are you being *hard pressed, perplexed, persecuted* or *stuck down*? (vv.8, 9)

Why do you think we have to go through such sufferings?

How can we overcome such sufferings?

8. According to verse 13, what follows belief?

How have you seen this in your life? What are the results of speaking?

How does the hope we have help us to persevere in our service? (v.14)

For whose sake did Paul and his associates endure these things? (v.15a) To what end? (v.15b)

For whose sake have you endured these things?

Living It Out:

How will you practically show the treasure in you to others?