

Treasure in Earthen Vessels

2 Cor 4:7-17

Three things common in those who contemplate suicide: Experience of _____ pain, interpersonal _____ and _____.

2 Cor 4:7

This treasure: Wealth; Deposit. _____ given by Holy Spirit

...in earthen vessels: Clay pots. Containers made out of common ordinary _____. Valuable gems stored in beautiful containers.

The treasure of Gospel put into hands of men ...

There is nothing in our being that adds anything to the _____ of the treasure inside our vessels.

Their value was not in the type of vessels they were but in what they _____.

We are vessels of _____ fashioned by the potter

Isa 64:8 Rom 9:21 Jer 18:4

Excellency: supereminence; pre-eminence-abundance, (far more) exceeding, _____ (out of) measure.

...of the power: dunamis, force, miraculous power, _____, abundance, might, strength, mighty (wonderful) work.

...may be of God, and not of us. This valuable treasure is contained in a very cheap and fragile container, our _____.

2 Chr 20:12 Psa 127:1 Jer 10:23 John 3:27 John 15:5 2 Cor 3:5

1 Chr 29:12 Job 26:12

1. God made us this way so He can use us for His _____

Acts 9:15 :

Vital that have a right understanding of who _____ are and who He is.

Psa 139:13-16

2. We must be _____ for use.

Clean, pure, holy, sanctified. 2 Tim 2:20-21

Wiersbe: *We are vessels so that God might use us. We are _____ vessels so that we might depend on God's power and not our own.* 1 Sam 2:30

3. We must focus on the treasure and not on the _____.

1 Tim 1:11

God is glorified through _____ vessels.

J. Hudson Taylor, *All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for god because they reckoned on Him being with them.*

In order for us to be at the place where we are useable vessels God has to put us through the crucible of _____.

Wiersbe: *Sometimes God permits our vessels to be jarred so that some of the treasure will spill out and enrich others. Suffering reveals not only the weakness of man but also the _____ of God.*

I See Myself

*One day I looked at myself.
At the self that Christ can see;
I saw the person I am today
and the one I ought to be.*

*I saw how little I really pray.
How little I really do;
I saw the influence of my life-
How little of it was true!*

*I saw the bundle of faults and fears
I ought to lay on the shelf;
I had given a little bit to God,
But I hadn't but I hadn't given myself.*

*I came from seeing myself.
With the mind made up to be
The sort of person that Christ can use
With a heart He may always see.*

2 Cor 4:8

Troubled: Afflicted, hard pressed; backed into a _____

...yet not distressed: cramped, crushed, _____,
with uncertainty or doubt; bewildered

...but not in despair; Don't give up or quit; to be utterly at a loss; to lose all

2 Cor 4:9 **Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;**

Persecuted To be hunted down; _____; hounded;

...but not forsaken: to leave behind in some place, to _____;
abandoned to the enemy, left to fend for himself

Cast down Smitten to the ground. Never to rise again; _____

But not destroyed: Struck down but not struck _____; perish, mar,
die; to ruin completely; to demolish.

How Paul deal with problems/afflictions?

1. He had _____ in life.

2 Cor 4:10

The test of a true ministry is not stars, but _____.

Gal 6:17

Applied--_____ death.

1 Cor 15:30 Rom 8:36

Applied—_____

Rom 6:6 Gal 2:20 Col 2:20

that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. Our bodies are constantly facing the threat of death just like _____ did.

Obvious--we have real life in Christ. He protects us and gives us a supernatural peace and _____.

2 Cor 4:11

for Jesus' sake: constantly living under sentence and threat of death on account of our loyalty to Jesus. 1 Cor 4:9

...that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

The resurrection life of Jesus will be made openly obvious, clearly _____ to all

Mortal: liable to die; human; _____

2 Cor 4:12

Because of our testimony for Christ ... brought to _____ life in Christ.

2. He lived his life in relation to the _____.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 Problems he is facing now are far _____ with eternal glory.

3. He lived his life under the constant _____ of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 4:16

So What? Three things common in those who contemplate suicide: Experience of _____ pain, interpersonal _____ and _____.

1. Realize our _____ in life—4:11

2. Live in light of eternal _____. 4:18

3. Live constantly _____ to Holy Spirit 4:16