The Blindness Of The Mind

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

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Topic:

THE BLINDNESS OF THE MIND

Bible Text: 2 Corinthians 4:3-5

Teacher: Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray that You will have mercy on us and give us superior wisdom as we study your word, in Jesus name. (Amen)

Study

I welcome you all in the name of our Blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

2 Corinthians 4:3-5 (KJV) But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

In the previous verses of this chapter, Paul the apostle made mention of different things they do that makes it clear that they are actually children of God and His ministers, he made it clear that they do not make merchandise of the Word of God but in declaring the truth always approve themselves to every man's conscience in God's sight. One thing about ministers of God is that they do not only preach the truth but their lifestyles preach the truth, more so because they

are aware that God sees and is taking into account all they are doing.

Those who work in the truth are obviously noticed and watched by others; and are made manifest in the conscience of men. **2 Corinthians 5:11 KJV** Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

There is danger in not believing the gospel, Paul says knowing the terror of God they persuade men! a loving God would one day become terrible to those who refuse to be persuaded to live a holy life. Now for those who would not see or obey the gospel despite how plainly it is written on tables, it is simply because a veil is covering their minds. **2 Corinthians 4:4 KJV** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. Those who are on their way to destruction would have this gospel veiled to them.

The gospel does not have any meaning to them, it is foolishness! **1 Corinthians 1:18 KJV** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. When we preach the gospel to the lost they see it as a kind of burden and waste of time but the moment the light of the gospel shines into their hearts it begins to make sense. Those who are genuinely saved do not take the gospel likely for they see it is the power of God to change and transform a deformed and depraved mind.

It takes the power of God to convict a perishing soul through the power in the Gospel of Christ. Without the gospel there won't be a power of conversion. For the gospel itself is a shining light that illuminates a darkened soul but the moment there is no penetration of that light into the heart such a person remains the same.

2 Corinthians 4:4 KJV In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. Here's the reason the gospel is veiled/hidden to the perishing, it is simply because their minds has been blinded by the god of this age we must take note that it is not the eyes that's being blinded but the mind, *the blindness of the mind is worser than that of the eyes*.

A man can be blind in the eyes yet walk in the light but a man that can see with his eyes can still work in darkness if he possesses a blind mind. Here we can see one of the duties of the god of this world, it is simply to bring mindblindness upon men. Satan knows the efficacy of the gospel, he knows that once sinners see the light they will be delivered from his hands so he makes sure that he covers their minds from believing the gospel, the moment a man believes the gospel the light of the Gospel of Christ shines, then such person becomes a candidate of heaven. If such a gospel as glorious as this is hid then it is hid to them that are lost. These are those who have been denied access to hearing the good news about Christ through the veil Satan used to cover their minds.

Satan has blinded the minds of many in this generation in many ways. We can see that the mind is the thinking faculty

of the human body, Satan influences the thoughts of people in ways that would assure them that the Gospel is foolishness and would make them see no tangible reason why they should believe it. This is the major reason why it is important to always pray before going for evangelism that the veil be removed from the minds of men. The word of God has not lost its power, it is just that the god of this world is making the people see what makes sense as nonsense by manipulating their thoughts. The devil does this in different ways.

1. **Deceit:** This is one of the most common ways Satan blinds the minds of men from believing the truth of the gospel. One of the nature of Satan is that he deceives and he cannot do otherwise because a leopard cannot change its skin. Deceit means the act of causing someone to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid, it is an attempt to deceive or trick someone, deceiving people is one of the works of the devil. **Revelation 20:10 KJV** And THE DEVIL THAT DECEIVED THEM was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. Through deceits he has turned the hearts of a larger number of people away from God.

a. **Satan does this by speaking to the minds of these perishing souls or by using his own anointed prophets who speak lies. 2 Corinthians 11:13 KJV** For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. They are deceitful workers who transform themselves as apostles of Christ. Their words are mind blinding instead for it to open men to the gospel. Paul says their throat is an open sepulchre and with their tongues

they have used deceit. **Romans 3:13 KJV** Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: then he warns that we should beware of them. **Colossians 2:8 KJV** Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. Through deceit men's hearts are diverted and channeled after the rudiments of this world and not after Christ.

b. **Satan also deceives men with the riches and the lust of other things making them see the things that are ephemeral as everlasting, he shows the physical beauty of substance and hides the inward decaying aspect**. This is the strategy he uses to send many christians to hell through the use of make-up products, attachments, jewelries, heels and the likes, he makes them see the beautiful and appealing side but through these, men are locked up even after they receive the good news and they lose their conviction. The Lord Jesus Christ talked about this in the parable of the sower. **Mark 4:19 KJV** And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

Satan thought he could deceive the Lord Jesus Christ through the riches, glory and wealth of this passing world so he took Him to the mountain and said he would give Him everything if the Lord would fall down and worship him. Imagine such a level of deceit, he was telling God to worship him assuming the Lord did not know who he was and He's earthly conscious he would have fallen to that temptation.

Matthew 4:9 KJV And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. But He told him that it is only God that is to be worshiped but today Satan seeks for worship through deceitful means and many are bowing down to him daily because of the passing riches of this world. He has blinded their minds through riches and the things (lusts) of this world, therefore they see no reason to believe the gospel.

2. **Accusations:** Satan is the accuser of the brethren. **Revelation 12:10 KJV** And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for THE ACCUSER OF OUR BRETHREN is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. To accuse simply means to charge with fault or offense. It is to bring an accusation against someone. This is the work of Satan, he has blinded the minds of many through false accusation. Those who are to receive the gospel have gotten their minds blinded by him by blaming them of their sins which the blood of Jesus Christ is ready to cleanse, most times his accusations come with slander, that is utterances or false charges or misrepresentations which damages another person's reputation.

He tries as much as possible to make men see that nothing can save them from their sins because they are too many, then he keeps blaming them for those sins. In fact, many have gone away from the faith because after they got saved Satan kept coming to them to accuse them and make them guilty of the sins the Lord had forgiven them and do not remember anymore by false and defamatory oral statements

about them. He achieves these most times speaking to the mind of such a person and making him ruminate on such words always. And because many are still young in the faith they believed his lies because they did not meditate constantly on the word of God. **Hebrews 4:16 KJV** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

They did not know that they have the power to silence the voice of the devil over their lives. Once a man gets saved, God does not remember his past sins. **Isaiah 43:25 KJV** I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, AND WILL NOT REMEMBER THY SINS.

As for the case of slander, he does this through his agents/children who present themselves as children of God but they have hidden agendas, they slander those who should be saved to the point that these people would reject the gospel when it is presented to them just because of someone whom they thought was a Christian did evil to them. Christians are admonished not to be slanderous. **1 Timothy 3:11 KJV** Even so must their wives be grave, NOT SLANDERERS, sober, faithful in all things.

He also has his children who accuse others falsely in order to stop them from receiving the gospel, these are those who preach the gospel of condemnation without hope! Making it look as if their lives is a write off, as children of God we should run away from things that will stop people from believing the gospel because the devil is ready to blind the minds of many through our lifestyles. There have been several occasions where unbelievers would look at the lifestyles of some so-called believers and say if this is our

Christianity is then they would rather not become Christians.

Those whose minds are already blinded by the devil lest that the light of the Gospel of Christ will shine on them cannot conform to the image of God. When light comes darkness disappears, and this light is what brings about transformation to looking like Christ, the ultimate aim God has for mankind is to see that man conforms to His image and His Son is His express image. **Hebrews 1:3 KJV** Who being the brightness of his glory, and THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS PERSON, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Jesus Christ is the brightness of His glory.

That same glory is what God wants for us but Satan does not want this. The preaching of Christ is a threat to the kingdom of darkness so Satan fights it as much as possible and Paul says they did not preach themselves but Christ. This means that any preaching rooted in self promotion can not win a soul because it will lack the light which is able to remove the veil blinding the minds of the lost. Anyone who preaches Christ will never be loved by the devil but when we preach ourselves it would not carry power, Jesus Christ upholds all things by the Word of His power.

If you follow the teaching and understand it well can you attempt these questions?

1. Explain what you understand by the blindness of the mind.

2. Which is worser between the blindness of the mind and the eyes, and why?

3. In what ways does the devil manipulate and influence the thoughts of men?

4. How can one stop the devil's voice of condemnation after repentance?

Invitation

If you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life. Please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Saviour, I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I make a decision to obey and follow You today. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ name I pray Amen.

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer please WhatsApp +2347067511039, and tell me that you just got saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you.

Prayer

Father, we thank You for Your word that has blessed our souls, we pray that You would remove every veil that has blinded our minds and let Your light shine upon us so that we be able to focus more on You and not be distracted by the frivolities of this world so that we can reign with You eternally, in Jesus Christ's name. AMEN

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