

LIGHT
OF
Christmas

LIGHT
Of the
World

LIGHT
Of the
City

LIGHT
Of the
LAMP

"IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND HE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN...
DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT."

JOHN 1: 1-5

JESUS CHRIST



HEALTH / POSSESSIONS / FINANCES



GOVERNMENT / RELATIONSHIPS / SELF

HOPE

DARKNESS
OF
Christmas

HOPELESSNESS

FORSAKEN

"You are not lovable"

CAPTIVE

"This is how it will always be"

POWERLESS

"They will never change"

HELPLESS

"No one can or wants to help"

DOOMED

"Your future is destroyed"



HOPE CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

A rustic interior scene with a window, pottery, and a lantern. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from a window in the background. The window is covered with a white lace curtain and a patterned fabric. In the foreground, there are several large, brown, earthenware pots and a small, ornate lantern. The overall atmosphere is warm and historical.

LIGHT

Of the

Gospel

“FOR GOD WHO SAID, “LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS” HAS SHONE IN OUR HEARTS.”

2 COR. 4:6



DESPAIR

LIFE HAS ME BEATEN DOWN

STRESSED

"At times, the pressure is unbearable."

CONFUSED

"This pain is part of His plan?"

MISTREATED

"I'm so worn down."

BEATEN DOWN

"I'm real close to burning out."



"IT IS THE FORTY THOUSAND POUNDS OF PRESSURE EXERTED ON THE TWO HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE STRINGS OF A PIANO THAT CREATES BEAUTIFUL HARMONY."


1 Therefore, having **this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.**

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 1-18



2 But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word,

But by the **open statement of the truth we
would commend ourselves to everyone's
conscience in the sight of God.**

3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing.

4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers to keep them from seeing the  LIGHT of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your
servants for Jesus' sake.

⁶ For God, who said,
“Let  shine out of darkness,”
Has shone in our hearts to
give the  of knowledge
of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.



OF THE GOSPEL

MANTRA

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 1-6

Sincerity

IT'S NOT ABOUT ME

Simplicity

IT'S NOT ABOUT RESULTS

Steadfastness

IT'S ALL ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY

FOUR-FOLD

Jars of Clay

PARADOX



AN ABSURD OR CONTRADICTORY STATEMENT THAT UPON FURTHER INVESTIGATION PROVES TRUE.

FOUR-FOLD
Jars of Clay
PARADOX

**“My Simple Jar of Clay
has Value”**



1.

⁷ But we have this
treasure in jars of clay,
to show that the surpassing power
belongs to God and not to us.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18



FOUR-FOLD
Jars of Clay
PARADOX

**“My Beaten Jar of Clay
has more value”**



2.

**8 We are afflicted in every way,
but not crushed;
perplexed,
but not driven to despair,**
**9 persecuted,
but not forsaken,
struck down,
but not destroyed.**

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18



10 always carrying in the body
the **death of Jesus**,
so that the life of Jesus may also
be manifested in our bodies.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18



FOUR-FOLD
Jars of Clay
PARADOX

**“My Broken Jar of Clay
has the most value”**

3.



11 For we who live are always being **given over to death** for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18



¹² **So death is at work in us,
but life in you.**

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18





We Suffer WELL

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18

How do you **Suffer WELL?**

1. CONVICTION of effort

“WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND SO WE ALSO SPEAK.”



13 Since we have the same **spirit of faith** according to what has been written, I believed, and so spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18





“YOU DON’T WANT TO BE GREAT.”

How do you **Suffer WELL?**

1. **CONVICTION** of effort

“WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND SO WE ALSO SPEAK.”

2. **ASSURANCE** of outcome

“HE WHO RAISED THE LORD JESUS WILL RAISE US.”



14 knowing that he who **raised**
the Lord Jesus will **raise** us
also with Jesus and bring us
with you into his presence.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18





“WE KNOW HOW IT ENDS.”

How do you **Suffer WELL?**

1. **CONVICTION** of effort

“WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND SO WE ALSO SPEAK.”

2. **ASSURANCE** of outcome

“HE WHO RAISED THE LORD JESUS WILL RAISE US.”

3. **RESPONSIBILITY** of purpose

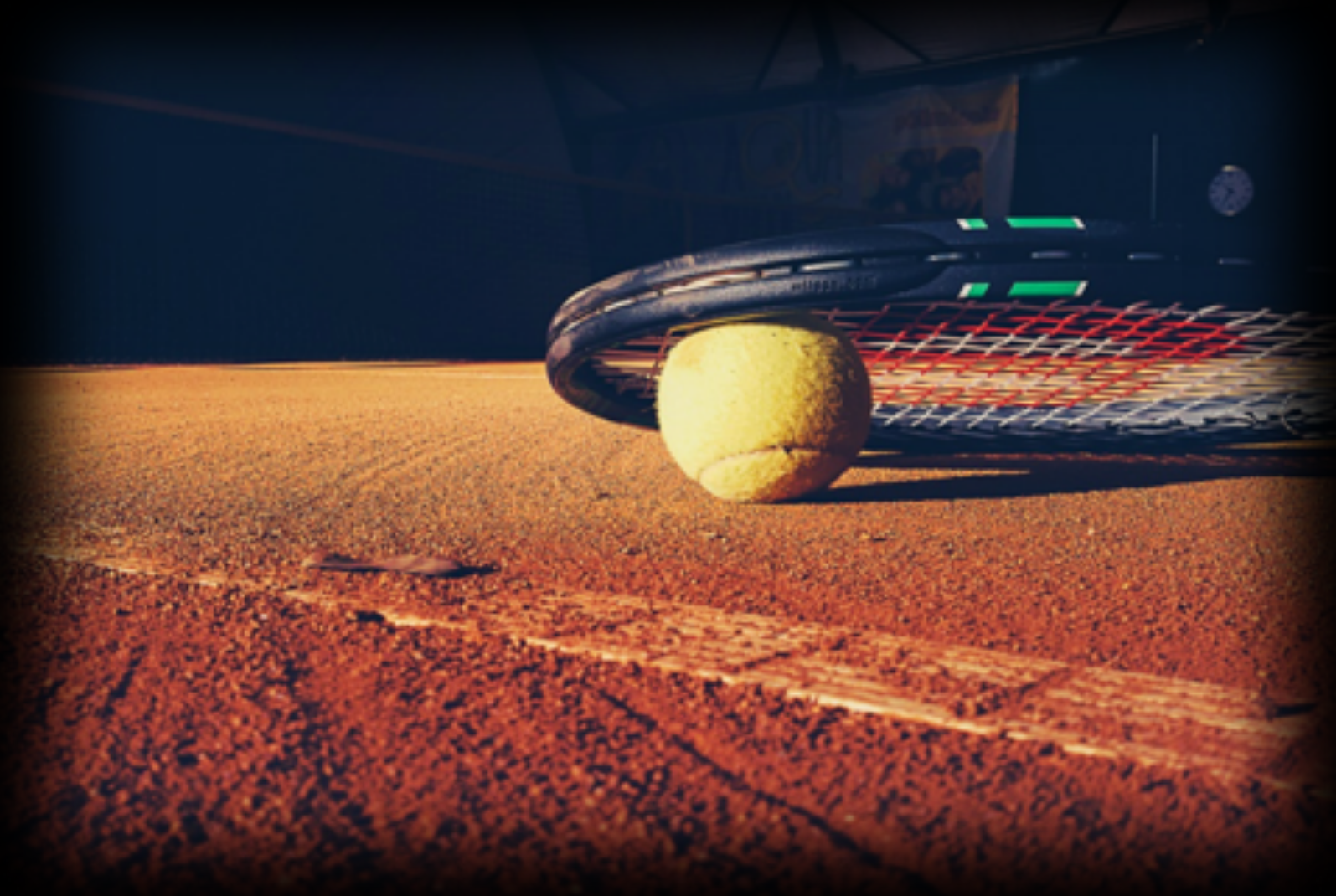
“SO THAT GRACE EXTENDS TO MORE AND MORE PEOPLE.”



15 For it is **all for your sake,**
so that as grace extends to
more and more people it may
increase in thanksgiving, to the
glory of God.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18





“CHAMPIONS ADJUST AND PRESSURE IS A PRIVILEGE.”

16 **So we do not lose heart.
Though our outer self
is wasting away,
our inner self
is being **renewed**
day by day.**

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-18



A person is shown from the back, wearing a dark beanie and a jacket, looking out over a bright, hazy landscape. The scene is backlit, creating a silhouette effect. The background shows a bright, glowing area, possibly a sunrise or sunset, over a valley or mountain range.

RENEWED through Suffering

5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

- 
- A person is shown in silhouette from the back, looking out at a bright, hazy landscape. The person's head and shoulders are dark against the bright background. The landscape is out of focus, showing a bright light source, possibly the sun, creating a lens flare effect. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.
1. **REFINE**
 2. **REMIND**
 3. **RETOOL**
 4. **RELIST**
 5. **REFOCUS**

RENEWED through *Suffering*

5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

- 
- A person's silhouette is shown from the back, looking out at a bright, hazy landscape. The person's head and shoulders are in shadow, while the background is a soft, glowing light, possibly from a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.
1. **REFINE** our faith
 2. **REMIND**
 3. **RETOOL**
 4. **RELIST**
 5. **REFOCUS**

RENEWED through *Suffering*
5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

- 
- A person's silhouette is shown from the back, looking out at a bright, hazy landscape. The person's head and shoulders are in shadow, while the background is a soft, glowing light. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.
1. **REFINE** our faith
 2. **REMIND** us of our need
 3. **RETOOL**
 4. **RELIST**
 5. **REFOCUS**

RENEWED through *Suffering*
5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

- 
1. **REFINE** our faith
 2. **REMIND** us of our need
 3. **RETOOL** us for ministry
 4. **RELIST**
 5. **REFOCUS**

RENEWED through *Suffering*

5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

- 
1. **REFINE** our faith
 2. **REMIND** us of our need
 3. **RETOOL** us for ministry
 4. **RELIST** our priorities
 5. **REFOCUS**


RENEWED through *Suffering*

5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

- 
1. **REFINE** our faith
 2. **REMIND** us of our need
 3. **RETOOL** us for ministry
 4. **RELIST** our priorities
 5. **REFOCUS** us on heaven

RENEWED through *Suffering*

5 PURPOSES OF TRIALS

A photograph of two young boys looking out a window. The boy on the left is wearing glasses and an orange shirt, while the boy on the right is wearing a blue shirt. On the windowsill, there is a wooden tray with three white bottles of coffee. A potted plant hangs from the top of the window. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from the window.

HOPE CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

FOUR-FOLD
Jars of Clay
PARADOX

**“My Suffering Jar of Clay
has eternal value”**

4.





17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us
an eternal weight of glory **beyond all comparison.**



18 As we look not to the things that are **seen** but to the things that are **unseen**. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.



How do you **Suffer WELL?**

1. **CONVICTION** of the message

“WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND SO WE ALSO SPEAK.”

2. **ASSURANCE** of the outcome

“HE WHO RAISED THE LORD JESUS WILL RAISE US.”

3. **RESPONSIBILITY** of the treasure

“SO THAT GRACE EXTENDS TO MORE AND MORE PEOPLE.”

4. **UNSEEN HOPE** of eternal reward

“AN ETERNAL WEIGHT OF GLORY BEYOND ALL COMPARISON.”

A glowing lightbulb is positioned on the left side of the frame, casting a warm, yellow light. To its right is a tall, textured jar or bottle with a white, fibrous material wrapped around its neck. The background is a dark, starry space. The text 'Index of Refraction' is overlaid in the center, with 'Index of' in a bold sans-serif font and 'Refraction' in a white script font.

Index of Refraction

THINGS THAT ARE UNSEEN