

Leaning In
2 Corinthians 4
February 15, 2026

2 Corinthians 4:3-4(ESV)

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In 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.

How does Satan blind people to the light of the Good News?

- Isolation/loneliness
- Lusts for pleasure
- Notoriety
- Wealth/Riches
- Cares/burdens
- Hypocrisy of the believer
- Casual Christianity

What type of power or authority does he have?

- He holds much power in the world
- Demons/Evil spirits
- False Prophets
- Copycat power
- Deception/Manipulation

Revelation 1:18 (NLT)

¹⁸I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6(ESV)

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

As a servant of God, we have responsibilities to fulfill...

- To proclaim the Good News

1 Corinthians 2:1-5(NLT)

¹When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan. ²For I decided that while I was with you, I would forget everything except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. ³I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. ⁴And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. ⁵I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.

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As a servant of God, we have responsibilities to fulfill...

- To be light in darkness
- Live consistently the standards of God's Word (holy and righteous)

Titus 2:11-13 (NIV)

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹²It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

As a servant of God, we have responsibilities to fulfill...

- Love and pray for Lost
- Love one another (believers)

John 13:34-35 (ESV)

³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

2 Corinthians 4:7 (ESV)

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

Matthew 5:14-16 (NLT)

¹⁴"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

2 Corinthians 4:8-12 (ESV)

⁸We are afflicted in every way but not crushed; perplexed but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹For 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. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

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Romans 8:35-37 (NLT)

³⁵Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ³⁶(As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") ³⁷No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

1 John 4:4 (NLT)

⁴But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.