Dead Sea Scrolls

2 Corinthians

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the church of God in Corinth, together with all the saints throughout Achaia:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[Praise to the God] of All Comfort

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any ...

... understood us in part, you will come to understand fully that you can boast of us just as ... will boast of you in the day of the Lord ...

15 Because I was confident of this, I planned to visit you first so that you might ... twice. 16 I planned to visit you on my ... Macedonia and to come back to you ... edonia, and then to have you send ... way to Judea. 17 When I planned ... it lightly? Or do I make my pla... manner so that in the same... yes" and "No, no"?

18 But as surely a... sage to you is ...

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

2 Corinthians 4:7

Jars of Clay

- *"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and b...... that field." (Matthew 13:44)*

"*... to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.*" **(2 Cor. 4:7b)**

- **27** *To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.* **28** *Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.* **(Colossians 1:27–28)**

Jars of Clay – What Did They Look Like?

- Just like the "everyday" utensils in your cupboards at home, they looked battered, scared, and broken – in other words, **USED!**

- **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;* **10** *always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.* **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.* **12** *So death is at work in us, but life in you.* **(2 Cor. 4:8-12)**

Jars of Clay – What Is Their Mission?

"Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." **(Mark 16:15)**

"... if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister." **(Colossians 1:23)**

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ..." **(Romans 1:16)**

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

2 Corinthians 4:7

"Every heart without Christ is a mission field and every heart with Christ is a missionary, an earthen vessel with treasure for all who are lost!"
(Author Unknown)