



THE GOSPEL IN EARTHEN VESSELS

*"we have this
treasure in
earthen vessels"*
(2 Corinthians 4:7)

We Have This Treasure

The Gospel is a Treasure

- The context is considering the gospel –
2 Corinthians 3:14, 17 (knowledge,
word), 3 (ministry by Spirit); 4:1-6
(ministry of the gospel)
- Not a treasure to many –
2 Cor. 2:15-16; 1 Corinthians 1:23

We Have This Treasure

Do We Value It as Such?

- Psalmist saw its value – Psalm 19:10
- Paul saw its value – 2 Cor. 4:7-15 – lived accordingly.
- Conduct corresponding to value exhorted – Matthew 13:44-46

In Earthen Vessels

Earthen Vessel?

- The Body – 1 Peter 3:7;
1 Thessalonians 4:3-4
- Paul – Acts 9:10-16
- God's plan is for His glorious message to be carried forth in the earthen vessel of man.

In Earthen Vessels

By God's Choice

- Scripture is sufficient in itself –
2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Message preached –
1 Corinthians 1:21; Romans 10:13-15
- Not Jesus, but Ananias (Acts 9:6;
22:16); Not an angel, but Philip
(Acts 8:26, 35); Not an angel, but Peter
(Acts 10:3-6)

In Earthen Vessels

Entrusted with a Stewardship

- God's communication before –
Hebrews 1:1
- God's communication now –
Hebrews 1:2; John 9:5; 12:35-36;
2 Corinthians 5:16; 4:6; Matthew 5:14;
28:18-20

In Earthen Vessels

“that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us”

- Not by craftiness or handling word with deceit (2 Cor. 4:2).
- Not preaching self, but Christ (2 Cor. 4:5).
- Manifestation of the truth (2 Cor. 4:2).
- Shining the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 4:4, 6).



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