1  
### Sections
- 1:1-2:13 The Comforting, Clean Heart of a Minister
- 4:7-15 The Actuality of Ministry seems “less” than glorious

2  
### Paragraph Titles
- Manifesting Christ the Image of God 4:1-6
- Manifesting Christ in “Real” Life 4:7-4:15
- The Weight of Glory 4:16-18

3  
### Manifesting Christ in “Real” Life

4: 7-9 Trials always face us
4: 10-12 Death must be faced
4: 13-15 Fearless proclamation

4: 10-18 The Weight of Glory

4  
### II Cor 4:10-18
Living in the Light of the Glory of God

The Paradox of Glory

5  
### 2:14-7:4
in relation to the book
A sustained defense of “pure” apostle-ship

A second line of thought:
- glory in the midst of trial
  - thlipsis
- forgiving
“dying living”
victorious life in midst of dying
dying so that life of Jesus might be seen

6 **4:7-15 Laws of Structure**
- V 7 Preparation for what follows

- vv. 8-14 Support for Paul’s recognition of both weakness and strength by a series of contrasts

7 **4:7**
- Seems to be in contrast to ‘glory of God’ v.6
- Cf. v 1 ‘we have’ - possessive – not ownership but guardianship of a priceless treasure
- Treasure, storeroom = “thesaurus” (only here and Col 2:3 in Paul)
  - Jesus often uses it (13t) mainly negatively

8 **What is this treasure?**
- Options:
  - Illumination due to the glory of God (6)
  - Gospel (4)
  - Or both (4)
  - “The ministry of the gospel of the glory of God”

9 **earthen**
- ‘ostracion’ – baked, clay formed as pots
- Israel is strewn with them – shards of fragile earthenware – expendable, cheap, relatively worthless, unostentatious
- Paradox: contain a priceless treasure
- Paul is not diminishing the body as many false prophets did
- He is emphasizing the grandeur of what it is to bear Christ’s life
vessels

- Jar, container
- Here the whole person is referred to:
- Not a dualism of something deposited and the outer ‘shell’ has no meaning
- (important for later discussion 4:16-5:9)

10-12 Death must be faced

11 The dying and the life of Jesus

- Vessels carry the *glory of God*
  - Always carrying the death of Jesus
  - Others have always tried to kill the Jesus that is before them (response of the perishing)
  - They don’t hate you they hate me – Jesus to his disciples (Jn 15:18-21)

- Preparation: 1:5 the sufferings of Christ
  Paul keeps working this out

12 The death of Christ

- Word is ‘necrosis’ only here and of Sarah’s womb in Rom 4:19
- It is best interpreted as a process of dying
  - Paul faced this possibility continually but he is referring to the ‘dying’ experienced by Jesus throughout his ministry but especially in his passion.
- The last week of the life of Jesus is the climax of the course of events leading up to His death.
- Similarly, we are to identify with His life and death

13 That which reflects His Glory

- …that the Life also may be manifested (10)
- …that the Life also may be manifested (10)
  - Repetition like this? Only word order shift

- …but life in you (12)

to the world
• …will raise us also with Jesus (14)

14 The only way to receive His Life
• We don’t earn it
• We don’t get it by belief alone
• We don’t somehow understand it
• We don’t “draw upon”

• We have to die
• It is only His Life that is manifested

15 v. 13? Bold Proclamation
• Faith – hasn’t occurred since 1:24
• Spirit of faith (anywhere else?)
• Ps 116: 10
• Having the same spirit of faith - Which animated the saints of old; David, in particular, when he said, I believed, and therefore have I spoken - That is, I trusted in God, and therefore he hath put this song of praise in my mouth. JW Notes on NT

16 What difference does the Resurrection make for my life?
• Newness/Freshness (Rom 6:4. 7:6)
• Openness to All of Him
• Clearness
• Freedom
• Unhindered by the “down pull” of life

17 Paragraphs
Ch 1-7 Paul’s defense of true Ministry
• 1:1-11 Gospel of Comfort
• 1:12-2:13 Gospel offered with Clean Conscience
• 2:14-3:6 Ministering a New Covenant – The Glorious Gospel of Christ
• 3:7-4:15 The Real glory of Ministry
  seems “less” than glorious
  –8-9 Trials always face us
  –10-12 Death must be faced
  –13-14 Fearless proclamation before God and man
  –15 The Power of gratitude

18  ❱ Laws of Structure
  • V 7 Preparation for what follows
  • Vv 8-14 Support for Apostle’s recognition of weakness and strength
  • V 15 Climax/Conclusion

19  ❱ Why do we bear His death?
  • We bear His dying that the power of His life might be made manifest.
  • We are the living dead or the dying living!
  • Taking up our Cross
  • Living Sacrifices

20  ❱ 4:7 and 15
  • Frailty has two effects:
    REALIZATION
    – Treasure 7a: Power for transformation is God’s alone, as is strength to endure
    – How willing am I to let Him manifest His Life?
    RESPONSE
    – Thanks (15): spreading of the gospel of His transforming grace brings gratitude

21  ❱ Glory through Suffering 4:16-18
• Seems to be a transitional paragraph
  4:7-15  Death in life for Life

4:16-18 forms a type of ‘bridge’
  – Looks both back and then forward
  – Death and life and the depth of glory

5:1-10  Life after Death

22  We do not lose heart 4:16
  • In vs 1 the same word is used –
    – To behave badly or in a cowardly way
    – A slackening, a weariness, a temptation to lose hope
    – Paul says, No! We have no reason to falter
      • The glorious power and liberating transformation of the Holy
        Spirit has become our sustenance 3:17-18
      • The resurrection life of Jesus has been shared with us 4:10

23  Paradox
  • Definition?
    a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or
    absurd but in reality expresses a possible truth.

  • Ch. 1 divine comfort in affliction
  • Ch. 4 divine strength  in weakness
  • Ch. 4 divine life  in midst of death

  • Here – divine glory  in the midst of fear

24  We do not lose heart v. 16
  • Paul starts his argument with this in 4:1
  • Then he supports his loving command 4:2-15
  • Nothing, not even death itself can repress the resurrection life
    that motivates the Christian life
  • Christian perseverance is not of us but from God’s mercy 4:1
• That mercy is powerful, as real and brilliant as the resurrection:
• It is a cleansing mercy, a restoring mercy, an adopting mercy, and a lovingkindness which endows us with the glory of the Trinity

25 The contrast based upon eternal life known in the heart
• So – or more strongly, rather, but, in distinct contrast, we do not lose heart.
• Though our outer self (our body) is wasting away, (even the tense is passive) a process of decay!

TWIN PROCESSES CONTINUE ALL THROUGH LIFE

YET, a radical contrast in direct proportion to the assault there is a divine resilience, our inner self (our spirit, soul) is being renewed day by day (day after day, only found here in NT). 4:16 cf. to 3:18 changed from one degree of glory to another

26 Flow of thought
• Therefore (as a result of ‘dying living’)  
• Statement of resolve: (cf. v. 1) we don’t cave in 
• Support by Contrast:
  – Even though…
  – Yet our…
  – While we…
  – But the things

27 Recurrence of Contrast in 16-18
  – Outer in relation to the Inner
  – Decay vs. Renewal (16)
  – Momentary vs. Eternal (17)
  – Light vs. Weighty (17)
  – Affliction vs. Glory (17)
  – Seen vs. Unseen (18)
  – Temporal vs. Eternal (18)
• 5:1 earthly tent vs. building from God
  – Torn down vs. eternal in the heavens
• *para – doxos* h.l. Lk 5:26 “we have seen a paradox today” something that causes wonder (that ‘accords with’ glory)
• Ch. 1 divine comfort in affliction
• Ch. 4 divine strength in weakness
• Ch. 4 divine life in midst of death
• Ch 4 divine rejuvenation in the midst of human debilitation

**4:17**
• *For:* points back, another reason not to give up
• Two qualifiers of afflictions (*thlipseis*)
  – Adverb: Immediate, short-lived
  – Adjective: Light, insignificant amount, slight

Note what these afflictions *OF OURS* are producing *IN US*

**A personal question?**
• How are you facing the trials of today?
• If persecution produces His powerful mercies life-giving flow that means something is added to me daily that I don’t want to miss out on.
  In Christ, no damage is wasted.
• What is it that brings hope to the soul?
• What produces forward-looking vision?

**The Weight of Glory**
• *Kabed – glory* (376 times in OT) *lit. heavy but seldom used that way literally*
  – *Heavy with sin – hardening (kabed) of Pharaoh’s heart*
• The Holy One is only about making us like Him in His character - glorious
• He will take every circumstance and work it into value, weightiness, substance, valuable, worthy, honorable,

**The process of His new creation**
• *Exo Lit. this outer person – our physical reality*
–Present tense – continually decaying
–But, However, In distinct contrast, nevertheless
• Eso Lit. this inner person – what makes us who we are, the new creation, our spiritual life
  –Present tense – continually being renewed
  –Made new continually

• The resurrection began such a chain of events for us as believers that it offers a continual dynamic, a sanctifying growth that is completed when we see Jesus.
• His resurrection and ours have a goal and that is the glorification of our bodies