

# **“But If Our Gospel Be Hid”**

## **2 Cor. 4:1-4**

### Introduction

- I. Have you ever wondered why the world seemingly has no use for the Word of God?
- II. Paul, by inspiration, wrote about the problem that existed in his lifetime.
- III. It might surprise us, but things have not really changed.

### Discussion

- I. The minds of the lost have been blinded (2 Cor. 4:4).
  - A. Paul explained how the Gentiles' minds were blinded (Rom. 1:18-32).
  - B. Paul explained how the Jews' minds were blinded (Rom. 2:1-11).
  - C. The church in Thessalonica was warned of how minds would be blinded (2 Thess. 2:9-12).
    1. People would rather believe a lie instead of the truth (John 17:17).
    2. God wants all “to come unto the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4).
- II. People would rather hear foolishness instead of the “testimony of God” (1 Cor. 1:18-28; 2:1-5).
  - A. People do not want hear the preaching about Christ Jesus the Lord (2 Cor. 4:5-6).
  - B. Many do not long for “the old paths” anymore (cf. the Jews; Jer. 6:10-17).
  - C. Too many find it pleasing to rebel against God and His Word (Isa. 30:1-2, 9-13).
- III. God expects his people to continue to be the salt of the Earth and the light of the world (Matt. 5:13-14).
  - A. Paul, and other Christians in the first century, were going to do their parts to make sure that the Gospel was not hidden (2 Cor. 4:6-18).
  - B. It is our responsibility to continue to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Mark 16:15; 2 Tim. 4:2; cf. Eph. 3:9-10).

### Conclusion

- I. For so many, the Gospel is hidden from them because of their own choices.
- II. Let us open our hearts to God's precious Word, for It is still able to accomplish God's Will (Isa. 55:11).