Daily Devotion #190

**Blinded Minds**

**2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (NASB)** *“And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”*

The other day I was driving out of our subdivision, and the rain was pouring down. It was not a problem for me because I was cozy inside the cab of my truck, but as I reached the end of the street there was a young man from our neighborhood standing in the rain with no umbrella or raincoat. He is a kind and pleasant young man who was one of our kid’s friends. As I approached him, I rolled down my window to say hello and ask him if he had an umbrella or something that would keep him dry. He simply said, “No. Thank you. I’m good”. He seemed oblivious to the fact that he was soaking wet.

As I thought about that few moments, I began to think about the minds of those who do not live for Christ - those who do not know the living God. Those people who live life without Christ act like that young man standing in the rain with no protection from the wetness. They don’t seem to care, and they seem oblvious to the truth that they are headed to hell if they don’t awaken from their spiritual blindness.

We have been watching our world seemingly go more and more crazy as this pandemic has continued. People just keep going and pretending that there is nothing spiritual happening. People just seem to give no thought to God in it all. More and more people are irritated and frustrated at others. And for those of us who love the Lord Jesus and want others to know Him, we seem to be pushed to the back of the line more and more.

Why is that the case? Why do people push the truth of eternal life and peace with God away? The answer is that they are blind to God and all He wants for them. And that is exactly what Paul was saying to the Corinthian church. The people pushed away God and His message of the Gospel. And they thought Paul was crazy. Almost like the young man standing in the rain was seemingly oblivious to the downpour, the minds of those who don’t live their lives for Christ are blind to what God has for them. And that is because Satan has blinded them to the truth.

I don’t know exactly how he does that, but he does. What I do know is they think their lives are ok, when they are not. Many people, in our country at least, never give the Holy Spirit a second thought. Most things that are unexplainable are pushed away as a hoax or something that can be explained through science. Normal is to live by the desires of the flesh, and everyone who doesn’t is crazy. This is why it is so difficult to reach people with spiritual truth. They literally cannot see the truth, even when it is in front of them. They have no ability to understand or comprehend what we tell them, unless God opens their minds.

So, when you and I get frustrated that people don’t respond to the love and kindness of God through us, we shouldn’t get angry at them, but we should have pity on them. We should pray that God will open their hearts. We should be patient and remember that it is not them that we are struggling with, but Satan and his work to keep them in spiritual darkness. (Ephesians 6:12) It does no good to be frustrated with the people who do not want to hear the truth. What they need is for God to open their hearts, minds, and eyes so they can see.

You and I were given a great gift, beloved. We can see! Not with physical eyes, but with the spiritual eyes of our hearts. You didn’t do that, and I didn’t do that, God did! And for that, we must first be thankful and rejoice everyday that we have been given such a gift. Then we must pray, pray, pray for those who are blind.