HOLY MAN IN UNHOLY SOCIETY: A study in I and II Corinthians

AMEN Bible Study 2013-2014

Why Unbelievers Don't Believe II Corinthians 4:1-6 March 6, 2014

4:1-2 I. The problem is not with the Gospel message.

This ministry of the New Covenant is from God.

"Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God."

- :1 A. We are humble.
- :1 B. We are bold.
- :2 C. We are transparent.

:3-4 II. The problem is spiritual blindness.

- :3 A. A veil remains over the lost.
 - "And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing."
- :4 B. Satan is at work in the minds of the lost.

"In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

:5-6 III. The answer is the re-creative work of God.

- A. So we proclaim Christ and not ourselves.
 - "For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."
- :6 B. This is the way the Gospel came to us.

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."