

Seeing Jesus' Face

(Part 2)

II Corinthians 4:1-6

- **Renouncing Spiritual Seduction (vs. 1-2)**
- **Discerning Spiritual Blindness (vs. 3-4)**
- **Beholding God's Glory in Jesus' Face (vs. 5-6)**

Discerning Spiritual Blindness vs. 3-4

- When we come to know God we ‘*see the light,*’ God illumines our heart so we see in Jesus the glory of God.
The light goes on! *Ah ha! I ‘get it!’*
 - See **Acts 26:9-18**
 - *I once was blind, but now I see!*
- But of course that doesn’t always happen...
because of **Spiritual Blindness.**

Discerning Spiritual Blindness vs. 3-4

- To the perishing the Gospel is veiled – vs. 3
 - Veil = cloth/net over the eyes or a covering that obscures an object from clear sight.
 - See **3:7-18** – both a literal and figurative veil
 - The New Covenant: believers behold with unveiled face the glory of Christ.
 - It is when someone turns to the Lord that the covering is removed and he can see (**3:16**) – this is a work of God's Spirit (**3:18**).

Discerning Spiritual Blindness vs. 3-4

- To the perishing the Gospel is veiled – vs. 3
- Unbelievers are blind – vs. 4
 - In our 'natural' state – the way we are by birth – we are quite incapable of discerning spiritual truth. See I Cor 2:12-14.
 - Illustration: Colorblindness
An in-born inability to distinguish certain colors and see them the way they truly are.
 - Spiritual blindness is removed when the Holy Spirit turns on the light and gives a new heart. “Ah ha – I get it!”
 - Acts 16:14 The Lord opened Lydia's heart...

Discerning Spiritual Blindness vs. 3-4

People *do not* 'get it' because they *cannot* get it unless and until the Spirit of God removes the obstruction within and gives eyes that see and a heart that responds.

- *It is not true that someone will respond to the gospel if we can just figure out the right way to present it...*
- *The issue is not the skill of the one sharing the Gospel, but that God removes the spiritual blindness...*
- *The focus of our prayers for others must be that God will sovereignly and graciously remove the blindness and open their heart to respond.*