

# ***Till We Have Faces*** - Further Food for Thought

## **2 Corinthians 3:7 - 4:6**

**“The One in Which Paul Speaks of Veiled and Unveiled Faces and Things”**

### **Chapter 3:7**

**Contrast with the Old Covenant.** <sup>7</sup> Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, was so glorious that the Israelites could not look intently at the face of Moses because of its glory that was going to fade, <sup>8</sup> how much more will the ministry of the Spirit be glorious? <sup>9</sup> For if the ministry of condemnation was glorious, the ministry of righteousness will abound much more in glory. <sup>10</sup> Indeed, what was endowed with glory has come to have no glory in this respect because of the glory that surpasses it. <sup>11</sup> For if what was going to fade was glorious, how much more will what endures be glorious.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, since we have such hope, we act very boldly <sup>13</sup> and not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the Israelites could not look intently at the cessation of what was fading. <sup>14</sup> Rather, their thoughts were rendered dull, for to this present day the same veil remains unlifted when they read the old covenant, because through Christ it is taken away. <sup>15</sup> To this day, in fact, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts, <sup>16</sup> but whenever a person turns to the Lord the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> All of us, gazing with unveiled face on the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord who is the Spirit.

### **Chapter 4**

**Integrity in the Ministry.** <sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have this ministry through the mercy shown us, we are not discouraged. <sup>2</sup> Rather, we have renounced shameful, hidden things; not acting deceitfully or falsifying the word of God, but by the open declaration of the truth we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even though our gospel is veiled, it is veiled for those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup> in whose case the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, so that they may not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For we do not preach ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your slaves for the sake of Jesus. <sup>6</sup> For God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to bring to light the knowledge of the glory of God on the face of [Jesus] Christ.