

Joy in Ministry:

Finding it, recovering it, hanging on to it and sharing it

My website

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Acts 18:1-4

- Acts 18:1 After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³ and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together-- by trade they were tentmakers. ⁴ Every Sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks... ¹¹ He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Paul's 'second missionary journey'



1 Corinthians 5:9-10

- ⁹ I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral persons-- ¹⁰ not at all meaning the immoral of this world, or the greedy and robbers, or idolaters, since you would then need to go out of the world.

1 Corinthians 16:5-9

- ⁵ I will visit you after passing through Macedonia-- for I intend to pass through Macedonia-- ⁶ and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way, wherever I go. ⁷ I do not want to see you now just in passing, for I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. ⁸ But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

2 Corinthians 2:1-4

- 2 Corinthians 2:1 So I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. ² For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? ³ And I wrote as I did, so that when I came, I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice; for I am confident about all of you, that my joy would be the joy of all of you. ⁴ For I wrote you out of much distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain, but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Paul's Third Visit

- 2 Corinthians 12:14 ¹⁴ Here I am, ready to come to you this third time. And I will not be a burden, because I do not want what is yours but you; for children ought not to lay up for their parents, but parents for their children.
- 2 Corinthians 13:1 2 Corinthians 13:1 This is the third time I am coming to you.

The Super-apostles

- 2 Corinthians 11:5 ⁵ I think that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles.
- 2 Corinthians 12:11 ¹¹ I have been a fool! You forced me to it. Indeed you should have been the ones commending me, for I am not at all inferior to these super-apostles, even though I am nothing.

The Glory we Reflect

2 Corinthians 3:7-18

2 Corinthians 3 – Structure

- Does Paul need *letter* of recommendation (v.1)?
 - No because Corinthians are *letter* prepared by Spirit (vv.2-3)
 - *Letter* Kills Spirit Gives Life (v.6)
 - There was Glory in the *letters* written in Stone; So even more so in ministry of Spirit (vv. 7-17)
- So should be able to see Glory of God reflected in faces (v18)



The Diocese of
Peterborough

Genesis 31:1

Now Jacob heard that the sons of Laban were saying, “Jacob has taken all that was our father’s; he has gained all this wealth (**kabod**) from what belonged to our father.”

Exodus 24:16-17

The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

Luke 2:9

Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Exodus 34:29-31

- ²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant¹ in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them

Exodus 34:32-35

- . ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

2 Corinthians 3.13

- not as Moses who put a veil on his face so that the children of Israel could not fix their eyes on the end of what was passing away.

Qal vaHomer

- Literally light and heavy
- From the less significant to the more significant
- i.e. In this light instance this is the case, how much more is it the case in his heavy instance

Exodus 34.30

- ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, they were afraid to come near him.

Philo, *Life of Moses* 2.70

“their eyes could not endure the dazzling brightness that flashed from him like the rays of the sun.”

3.16

- Whenever he might turn to the Lord, the veil is cast off

Beholding or Reflecting?

Three options for interpreting the verb

- To behold as in a mirror (NASB, NRSV)
- To reflect like a mirror (KJV, RV, NEB, JB, NIV)
- To gaze (RSV, NAB)