

Our indistinct views of Christ (Quality: Average)

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- [0 : 00] 2nd Epistle to the Corinthians chapter 3 and especially verse 18. 2nd Epistle to the Corinthians chapter 3 verse 18.
- 3rd Epistle to the Corinthians chapter 3 verse 18.
- Charles chose that hymn, he knew nothing of what I am about to say. Does not know now till I mention it.
- But I woke at 3 o'clock or thereabouts this morning. I mentioned the time, perhaps one was praying for me at that time. And immediately that 5th verse of the hymn we have just sung came powerfully to my mind.
- As the image in the glass answers the beholder's face. Thus unto my heart appear.
- [1 : 29] Print thine own resemblance there. What a wonderful prayer. And we feel it confirmed that Charles has chosen that hymn.
- And this verse in that connection came to one's mind. Not a verse we've ever spoken from before in our 35 years of ministry.
- one feels much need of the Lord to open it and to apply it with power to our souls.
- But firstly to look a little at the setting. Because this verse commences with the word but. which always draws our attention to compare that which follows with that which had gone before.
- And here in this chapter in the immediate context. Is that which we read from the book of Genesis.
- [2 : 39] The book of Exodus. Chapter 34. How that Moses. Had at God's command gone the second time.
- Up to Mount Sinai. The first time with Joshua. When God gave him the two tables of stone. With the ten commandments upon them.
- But when Moses came down from the mount. And saw the golden cup. And the second time. We read there how he. Threw them down.
- And broke. And then without dwelling upon what took place. Many of the children of Israel were slain.
- Moses felt his need. The Lord to go with him. Aaron. Upon whom he seems to have placed too much trust in the past. That proved a broken ring.
- [3 : 39] And now. At God's command. He came the second time. This time without Joshua. Up Mount Sinai. And.
- He took these two tables of stone. Which God then wrote. Upon the. Ten commands. As we see in Deuteronomy chapter 10.
- And now. And now. When he returned. Having neither eaten nor. Bread nor drunk water in the mount. He came down.
- And his face shone. And the. Aaron. And the children of Israel. Were afraid. To come nigh to him. And so.

He put a veil. Upon his face. We cannot look at the sun. With our. Naked eyes. We would injure our eyes.

[4 : 38] If we did. I mean the sun of course. When it is high in the sky. When it is. Just rising. And shining through. Much.

Many miles of atmosphere. Or just setting. We can of course. In measure. Look at it then. But not when it is shining. In its full strength.

And so. He put a veil. Upon his face. And. When he went in. Before the Lord. To speak with him.

He took the veil off. Until. He came out. And the apostle. Inspired of course. By the Holy Spirit.

Uses this as a fig. How. That the glory. Of the Lord. Is. Hidden. As it were. In the types.

[5 : 34] And shadows. Of the Lord. By. The veil. And. The Jews. Even as we read.

In the Acts. Of the Apostles. Read that law. In their. Synagogues. Every. Sabbath day. For you.

Dear. Younger. Friends. Don't confuse. Synagogues. With the temple. There was only. One temple. In which. Sacrifices. Were offered. And that was.

At Jerusalem. The first. Temple. Temple. Of course. We call. Solomon's. Temple. Destroyed. By. Nebuchadnezzar's. Army. The second.

Temple. Built. By. Ezra. And. Nehemar. Of course. Built. The wall. And then. That temple. Much. Enlarged. By. Herod.

[6 : 28] The great. Through. Forty. Years. As we read. Mentioned. In the. Gospels. Not that Herod. The great. Desire.

To worship. God. But. Thought he would. Obtain. The. Loyalty. Of the people. By building. And enlarging. The temple. And.

The law. The law. Was read. In the synagogues. The synagogue. Was a place. Of teaching. Wherever. The Jews. And by that time.

They were scattered. Amongst. Many nations. In the middle. East. They. Had a synagogue. We read. How Paul. And his companions.

Went into the synagogues. On the Sabbath day. But. This. Vale. As it were. Was not taken. For the most part.

[7 : 24] From the heart. Of the Jews. They did not see. The gospel. Types. And shadows. In the law. The shedding.

Of blood. In the Passover. The shedding. Of blood. Daily. In the sacrifices. Of the outer court. But once a year.

Blood. Had taken. Into the inner court. And sprinkled. Before. And upon. And upon. The mercy seat. They did not see. The.

Types. Of the scapegoat. Or of the brazen. Serpent. That was lifted. The veil. Was upon. Their heart. As we read.

In. Here. In the. Thirteenth. Verse. Not as Moses. Which put a veil. Over his face. That the children.

[8 : 20] Of Israel. Could not. Steadfastly. Look. To the end. Of that. Which is abolished. But their minds. Were blind. For until.

This day. Remindeth. The same veil. Untaken. Why. In the reading. Of the Old Testament. Still.

The Jews. The Orthodox Jews. Still have that veil. Over their heart. Still waiting. Before the Messiah.

Nevertheless. When it shall turn. To the Lord. The veil. Shall be. Taken away.

None of us. Are. Jews. By genealogy. But nevertheless. Upon our hearts. Is this veil.

[9 : 20] Until. The Lord. Takes it away. In the. School. Just over the road. We had to learn.

Many scriptures. By heart. At the time. Speaking. Personally. It was not. Profitable. To my soul. But I believe. The Lord.

Has made those things. We learn. By heart. Things we learn. As children. Remain. Upon our hearts. And memory. In old age.

When we. Cannot often. Remember. Things. A few days ago. And so. I believe. The Lord. Has. Blessed. Those things. We learned. Then.

But amongst them. Were the ten commandments. Which. If my memory. Is right. We often. Had to repeat. Almost every day. But it meant.

[10 : 14] Nothing to. Nothing to. And the vial. Was still upon my heart. Is it upon your heart? Are you still under the law?

The child of God. Is not under the law. But under grace. He will pray. And endeavor. To be kept from sin.

But not now. Because of the. Punishment. For sins. But because sin. Will be hateful. To him. Especially.

When by faith. He believes. The punishment. Of those sins. Was laid upon. Jesus Christ. And he will then.

As the apostle. Writes to the Romans. Suffer. With Christ. As I've said before. We suffer. With a person.

[11 : 10] In proportion. To our love. To that person. And especially. If we have caused. That injury. The vial.

Shall be taken away. And it is. As we read. In the. Last clause. Of verse 18. By. The spirit. Of the Lord. The Lord. Is. That spirit. And where. The spirit. Of the Lord.

Is. There. Is. Liberty. But. We all. Are you and I.

Amongst this. Way. I emphasize. Again. The epistles. Were written. Not to mankind. In general. But to those.

[12 : 08] Who were already. Manifestedly. Children. Of God. In the acts. Of the apostles. When addressing. A mixed congregation.

The apostles. Used the expression. Men. And brethren. Some. They knew. Had the same. Spiritual father. Even God. Some.

As yet. Gave no such. Evidence. So they. Use the expression. Men. And brethren. But. You. Never. Once. Find that expression.

Men. And brethren. In the epistles. And this second epistle. Written. By Paul. And Timothy. Unto the church.

Of God. Which is at Corinth. With. All the saints. Which are in all. Age. Raise. Be to you. And peace.

[13 : 06] From God. The father. And from the Lord. Jesus. Christ. Are we. In this. Living. Church.

Of God. Manifestedly. So. If we have followed. In the ordinances. Of baptism. And in keeping.

His commandment. To partake. Of the emblem. Of his broken body. And shed blood.
God. But all. His elect.

Are in the church. Even in their. Unregeneracy. Even. In their. Unregeneracy. Just a little figure.

To illustrate. And especially. For you. Dear. Younger friends. We read. Of Noah's ark. Of three stories. Shalt thou make.

[14 : 01] With a lower. Middle. And upper story. Now in the lower story. What we call. The bilges. Of the ship.

Is where all. The filth. Accumulates. All the rats. And other vermin. That may be. In the ship. Setting forth. As it were.

The condition. Of the Lord's people. In their. Unregeneracy. Below the water line. No light at all. All in darkness. We might liken.

The middle story. Of the ark. To the condition. Of the Lord's people. In this life. After. They're called. By grace.

There was. One window. A cubit. Wide and high. About. Eight inch. Eight inch. Inches square. It didn't give. Much light. For that middle story.

[14 : 57] But there was. Some light. The condition. Of the Lord's people. After. They're called. By grace. But the third.

Or upper story. Heaven. It's. Where all. Is light. But the point. I am making. Those.

That were in. That lower story. In complete. Darkness. Were just. As safe. Just. As safe. As those. In the upper story.

Though. They were still. In darkness. Their minds. Blinding. The veil. Upon their heart. Once. In him.

In him. Forever. Thus. The eternal. Covenant. States. We read. The Lord. Shut them in. The Lord.

[15 : 54] Shut them in. So are we. Amongst these. With open face. Beholding.

As in a glass. The glory. Of the Lord. For us to. See ourselves. In a glass. Certain things. Are essential. Consider them. Spiritual. Are we alive. No use. Holding a mirror. In front of a dead. Person.

And saying. Aren't you. Very pale. This morning. Aren't you. Going to shave. Or whatever. No. Response. The dead.

The dead person. Could not. See themselves. Again. We must have. Our eyes. Open. Like the man. In John.

[16 : 49] Nine. Blind. From his. Bow. He had to have. His eyes. Open. First. To see. Himself. As he. Saw. Himself. In that.

Water. In which. The Lord. Had commanded. Him. To wash. A grown man. Before that. Time. And he'd. Never seen. Himself. But now. He saw.

Himself. And then. Later. He saw. The Lord. Jesus. And. Not only. Have our eyes.

Open. And for that. Matter. Be awake. Because. When we are. Asleep. We. Would not. See ourselves. In a mirror. If it were. Held in front. Of our face.

But. Especially. We must. Have. Life. Ah. That is the great thing. To have that. Light. This mirror.

[17 : 45] Is especially. Of course. The. Gospel. Of Jesus Christ. The gospel. Of Jesus Christ. In John 12.

The Lord. Speaks much. Of himself. As that light. The light. That cometh. Into the world. I am come.

A light. Into the world. That. Whosoever. Believeth. In me. Should not. Avoid. Not remain. In darkness. He may. Know. Many times. In his. Spiritual. Experience. When he feels. To be in much. Darkness.

But he will not. Remain. In darkness. And Jesus. Said. Yet a little while. Is the light. With you. Walk.

[18 : 42] While ye. Have the light. Lest darkness. Come upon you. For he. That walketh. In darkness. Knoweth. Not whither he goeth.

While ye. Have light. Believe. In the light. That ye. May be. The children. Of light. These things.

Spake Jesus. And departed. And did hide. Himself. From them. The unbelieving. Jews. That light.

Did we not. Read of it. In the first. Chapter. Of the gospel. Recorded. In John. Where. John. Inspired.

Of course. By the spirit. Wrote. Of Christ. In him. Was life. And the life. Was the light.

[19 : 39] Of men. And the light. Shineth. In darkness. And the darkness. Comprehended it. That was my first.

Text. At Oakington. In December. Thirty five years ago. The light. Shineth. In darkness. And the darkness.

Comprehendeth it. Understandeth it. Not. In passing. Was it not. In that parable.

Of the sower. The only. Seed. That brought forth. Through. Through. Through. Was sent forth. By those. That. Understand.

The things. That were. Spoken. Him. That understandeth. And bringeth forth. Through. Some thirty. Some sixty. And some. And some. And hundred. And. And. And.

[20 : 36] Then. John. Speaking. Of himself. As a man. Sent from God. The same. Came. For a witness. To bear witness.

Of the light. That all men. Through him. Might believe. He was. Not. That light. But was sent. To bear. Witness.

Of that light. That was. The true light. Which lighteth. Every man. That. Cometh. Into the world. He was.

In the world. And the world. Was made by. And the world. Knew. Him. Not. The word. World.

Often means. The Lord's people. Amongst. All nations. As we find. With the Lord. Speaking. To Nicodemus. Who like.

[21 : 31] Peter. Later on. When. He had to have. That vision. From heaven. Nicodemus. And Peter. Thought. That only Jews. Would be.

The same. Beholding. As in a glass. The glory. Of the Lord. The Lord.

Jesus. In his. Prayer. The really. The only. Lord's prayer. Said. Father. I will. That they.

Whom thou. Has given. Be with me. Where I am. That they. May behold. My. Glory. The glory.

Which I. Had. With thee. From the. Foundation. Of the. Heart. We. Sometimes. Sing. Would we. View. His. Brightest. Glory.

[22 : 26] Here. It shines. In. Jesus. Face. The glory. Of the. Redemption. Of the. Souls.

Of the. Lord's. Peace. By. His. Sin. Atoning. Sacrifice. Peace. But. Here.

We. Have. As it were. A reflection. Beholding. As in a. Glass. The glory. Of the.

Lord. Do. We. As we. Look. Into. The. Glass. As it were. Of the. Holy. Scriptures. For the.

Holy. Scriptures. Have. Your. Reflection. In. They. Have. Mine. Both. For. Good. And. For. Man. Somewhere.

[23 : 20] In. The. Scriptures. Is. Your. Exact. Lightness. And. Mine. But. Again. We. Cannot. See. Except. The.

Lord. Shines. Light. Upon. His. Holy. Word. We. Do. Not. He. Lord. At. Hoking. Do. Though. Some. Of. Our. Places. Do. Commence.

With. Prayer. Before. The. First. Hymn. But. I. Hope. That. In. Our. Hearts. Whether. Allowed. Or. Not.

Whether. We. Take. Up. The. Scriptures. In. Our. Homes. Cars. Offices. Or. In. The. House. Of. God. Breathe. A. Prayer. In. Our. Hearts. That.

The. Lord. Would. Shine. Light. Upon. His. Holy. Word. That. We. Especially. May. See. In. The. Scriptures.

[24 : 14] Our. Own. Reflection. And. More. Especially. Or. Just. As. Important. To. See. Christ. As. Our. Saviour.

Search. The. Scriptures. Jesus. Said. For. They. Testify. Of. Me. Of. Me. In.

The. Following. Chapter. We. Read. There. That. Which. Is. Related. We. Read. Of. The. Gospel.

Being. Head. To. Them. That. Are. Lost. Those. That. Are. Still. In. Their. Lost. Condition. As. It. Was. Head. From. Us. In.

Our. Unregenged. In. Whom. The. God. Of. This. World. Hath. Blinded. The. Minds. Of. Them. Which. Believe. Not. Lest.

[25 : 08] The. Light. Of. The. Glorious. Gospel. Of. Christ. Who. Is. The. Image. Of. God. Should. Shine. Unto. Them. God. For.

God. Who. Commanded. The. Light. To. Shine. Out. Of. Darkness. Hath. Shined. In. Our. Hearts. To.

Give. The. Light. Of. The. Knowledge. Of. The. Glory. Of. God. In. The. Face. Of.

Jesus. Christ. Beholding. As. In. A. Glorious. The. Glory. Of. The. Lord. What.

Likeness. There. Is. Usually. Mortal. Less. Between. A. Child. And.

[26 : 02] Their. Pair. Some. May. Take. Mord. After. Their. Father. Some. Mord. After. Their. Mother. But. In. The. Spiritual. Sense. Of. Course. Have.

We. That. Likeness. Of. Our. Heavenly. Father. In. A. Small. Measure. It. Is. True. Showing. Whose.

Sons. We. Are. John. In. His. Epistle. Writes. Behold. What. Manner. Of. Love. The. Father. Hath. Bestowed.

Upon. Us. That. We. Should. Be. Called. The. Sons. Of. God. Therefore. The. World. Knoweth. Us. Not.

Because. It. Knew. Him. Beloved. Now. Are. We. The. Sons. Of. God. They. Were.

[26 : 53] Sons. Of. God. In. The. Purposes. Of. Election. From. Eternity. Past. We. Cannot. Change. Our. Natural. Parents. Wherever.

My. Sons. May. Go. Whatever. They. May. Do. They. Will. Still. Be. My. Sons. And. So. It. Is. Spiritual. And.

In. A. Spiritual. Sense. There. Are. Only. Two. Fathers. Christ. Said. Solemnly. Of. Some.
Ye. Are. Of. Your. Father. The. Devil. And.

Laugh. Unto. Be. Careful. Are. We. The. Sons. Of. God. And. It. Doth. Not. Yet. Appear.
But.

[27 : 48] Little. Comparatively. Of. What. Awaits. Us. In. Heaven. But. We. Know. That. When. He.
Shall. Appear. We. Shall. Be. Like. Him. Like. Jesus. Christ. The. Elder. Brother.

The. Brother. Born. From. Adversity. We. Shall. Be. Like. Him. For. We. Shall. See. Him.
As.

He. Is. To. See. Christ. Face. To. Face. How. Often. In.

Our. Pilgrimage. Journey. We. Are. Like. The. Two. On. The. Way. To. Him. I. Us. Christ.
Is. With.

Us. But. Our. Eyes. Are. Hold. And. We. Do. Not. Know. He. Faithfully. Reproved. Them.
As.

[28 : 42] Fools. And. Slow. Of. Heart. To. Believe. All. That. The. Prophets. Had. Spoken. They.
Clearly. Believed. The. Promised. Messiah. Would. Come. But. They.

Clearly. Did. Not. Believe. Isaiah. 53. That. He. Been. Numbered. With. The.
Transgressors. Bear. The. Sins. Of. Many. And. So. They.

Did. Not. Believe. All. That. The. Prophets. Spoken. But. When. He. Broke. Bread. Their.
Eyes. Were. Open. And. They. Knew.

Him. They. Vanished. Out. Of. This. But. What. Good. News. They. Had. No. Doubt. Tired.
After. Their. Journey.

Weary. With. Their. Journey. But. Now. Fresh. Strength. Giver. They. Rose. Up. The.
Same. Hour. Return. To. Jerusalem. To. Speak. Of. The.

[29 : 35] Saviour. That. Had. Revealed. Himself. To. There. Must. Have. Been. Light. It. Was.
Evening. Time. Yes. But.

There. Still. Must. Have. Been. Light. For. Them. To. See. Him. And. To. Know. Do. We.
See. Some. Lights.

Of. Ourselves. To. Our. Elder. Father. Jesus. Christ. When. He. Was. Reviled. He.
Reviled.

Not. A. Go. He. Went. About. Doing. Good. To. All. Set. A. Pattern. Of. How. We. Ought.

To. Know. But. Especially. He. Laid. Down. His. Life. For. The. Blast. God. And.

[30 : 28] We. All. To. Be. Willing. To. Lay. Down. Our. Lives. For. The. Brethren. How. Much. More.
Than. Comparatively.

Little. Acts. Of. Kindness. Beholding. As. In. A. Glass. The. Glory. Of. The. Lord. Are.

Changed. Into. The. Same. Image. From. Glory. To. Glory. From. The. Glory.

As. It. Were. An. Election. To. Greater. Glory. In. The. Revelation. Of. The. New. Birth. In.
Our. Souls.

The. Revelation. Of. Our. Sins. And. Of. Christ. As. Our. Savior. To. Even. Greater. Glory.
In. Heaven. It. So. In.

[31 : 25] Heaven. It. That. Great. Blessing. That. Awaits. All. The. Lord's. People. We. Read. Of. In.
The. Last. Chapter. Of. Revelation.

They. Shall. See. His. Face. And. His. Name. Shall. Be. In. Their. Forms. And.

There. Shall. Be. No. Night. There. And. They. Need. No. Candle. Neither. Light. Of. The.
Son. For. The. Lord. God. Giveth. Them.

- Life. And. They. Shall. Reign. Forever. And. Forever. I. Like. That. Him.
- Based. Upon. The. Sayings. Of. Rutherford. The. Bride. Eyes. Not. Her. Garment. But.
Her. Dear. Saviour's.
- [32 : 19] Face. Her. Dear. Bridegroom's. Face. I. Shall. Not. Gaze. At. Glory. But. On. My.
Saviour's. Face. Not. At. The.
- Crown. He. Giveth. But. On. His. Pierced. Hand. The. Lamb. Is. All. The. Glory. In.
Emmanuel's. Land. Chains. From. Glory. To. Glory. Eve. As. By. The. Spirit.
- Of. The. The. Spirit. Of. The. Taking. Our. Mind. To. That. First. Chapter. Of. Genesis.
The. Earth. Was. Without. Form.
- And. Void. And. Darkness. Covered. The. Face. Of. The. Day. Setting. Forth. The.
Unregenerate. Condition. Of.
- [33 : 12] A. Child. Of. God. And. Then. We. Read. The. Spirit. Of. God. Moved. Upon. The. Face.
Of. The. Waters. And. God.
- Said. Let. There. Be. Light. And. There. Was. Light. That. Was. Light. So. It.
- Is. When. That. Spirit. Of. The. Lord. Brings. Us. Into. Light. The. Newborn. Babe. Has.
Been. In. Darkness. Until.
- The. Birth. And. Then. It. Comes. Into. The. Life. For. The. First. Time. In. His. Life. It.
Breathes. It. Was.
- Living. Before. Yes. But. Now. For. The. First. Time. It. Breathes. As. I. Have. Said.
Before. You. In. The. New. Birth. Before. Concerning.
- [34 : 05] That. We. Know. The. Newborn. Babe. Is. Alive. By. Its. Cry. But. A. Cry. Can. Only. Be.
Made. After. Air. Has.
- Been. Breathed. Into. The. Lones. There. Can. Be. No. Sound. Made. By. The. Vocal.
Cords. Until. Air. Is. Breathed. Out. Over. Them. And.
- So. That. Newborn. Babe. Breathes. Into. Air. And. Then. Makes. Its. Cry. Of. Distress.
For. It. Must.
- Be. A. Traumatic. In. The. Path. Of. A. A. A. A. A. A. A. A. A. A. And. So. In.
- That. Creation. We. Have. The. Work. Of. Grace. Set. For. And. Then. Especially. In.
- [34 : 58] This. Context. Of. Being. Like. Him. We. Have. In. The. Twenty. Sixth. Verse.
- God. Sin. Let. Us. Make. Man. In. Our. Image. After. Our. Likeness. We.
- Could. Say. Perhaps. By. The. Fall. That. Image. Was. Defaced. And. Marn. But. Now. In.
A. Spiritual. Sense.
- The. Lord's. People. Are. Made. After. His. Image. After. His. Likeness. Well. We.
- Leave. These. Thoughts. With. You. But. We. What. An. Infinite. Mercy. If. We. Are.
Amongst.
- [35 : 51] These. Born. With. Open. Face. Beholding. As. In. A. Glass. The. Glory. Of. The. Lord.
Are.
- Changed. Into. The. Same. Image. From. Glory. To. Glory. Even. As. By.
- The. Spirit. Of. The. Lord. May. That. Be. Your. Portion. And. Mine. Amen.