

**2 Cor 4:1-18 - Because of Easter****'Cultivated' or 'transformed'**

If Easter had never happened, what would change in your world?

**A "self-cultivated" life**

... easily pick and choose what you like about Jesus.

**The 'real' Easter Story**

**Romans 3:23-24**, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

**The impact of Easter (on Paul)****1) Telling others**

Picture – tasmin bridge

v 13. "We believe and therefore speak".

... it transformed the way he said it.

v 2 he renounces secret and shameful ways and does not use deception.

...he just speaks the truth plainly. If people's hearts are veiled it is because God has veiled them.

**2) Opposition**

**Paul says**, <sup>8</sup>We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. <sup>10</sup>We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."

...he did not lose heart.

**3) Right value**

v 7 ... a clay jar that contained a huge treasure.

**4) Where we are heading**

Would you want to gain the whole world but lose your eternity?

**v 17 ... the glory of eternity will far outweigh anything else this world has to offer.**

**For us today**

**“How is the real Easter story transforming you?”**

**My one thing**

**Did you share your one thing with anyone last week?**

**One way that God’s word has spoken to you today?**

**Who will you tell about it?**