

“My Grace Is Sufficient For Thee”

I. Introduction:

A. You can turn to Old Testament passages and come to a conclusion that God is going to carnally bless the faithful (**Psalms 128:1-6**).

1. You could think there are no troubles to be concerned about (**Psalms 37:39-40**).

2. You could think God is good to us all (**Psalms 145:9-16**).

3. The problem with using those passages is that they were for a time wherein God physically, directly worked in caring for His people (**Deuteronomy 4:32-40** and **Deuteronomy 30:11-20**) in a Law we are not under today (**Romans 7:1-6**).

B. You can also ignorantly twist New Testament passages to your own destruction (**II Peter 3:15-18**).

1. One could take passages with spiritual applications (**Romans 8:28**) [note context shows this is not physical well-being; **Romans 8:31-39**]; apply it physically, ignoring that the conclusion they draw is not reasonably correct (i.e. **Acts 12:1-2**, **Acts 14:22**, and **I Peter 4:12-16**).

2. Some use Scriptures and miss the miraculous aspect of N.T. passages (**I Thessalonians 3:11**; cf. **Acts 16:1-10**) and how such does not apply today (**I Corinthians 13:8-13**).

3. All of that aside, and we know what we've briefly just covered, let's think about a statement made to Paul by the Lord in a context that is clearly miraculous.

II. Body: **II Corinthians 12:1-10** (**In context, Paul was “speaking as a fool” and thus this was to point out that he knew his place.*)

A. Take Paul, who was capable through the Spirit of God of doing great things for other people (**Acts 13:4-12**, **Acts 14:8-10**, **Acts 20:7-11**, and **Acts 28:1-10**).

1. He sought for his thorn in the flesh to be gone and could have easily thought the Lord's words meant He'd receive it (**Luke 11:1-13**).

2. However, the purpose of healing and such things was not for saints to have carnally comfortable lives (**Mark 16:14-20**).

B. Paul had to learn to be content (**Philippians 4:11-12**).

1. His lessons involved suffering through hardships (**I Corinthians 4:11-12** and **II Corinthians 11:27**).

2. He learned to live in a manner wherein he could have nothing, and yet feel as though he was rich (**II Corinthians 6:10**).

3. It is not that we cannot enjoy life in this world (**I Peter 3:10-11**) or even prosper carnally (**I Timothy 6:17-18**) with balance (**Psalms 62:10**).

4. We just should not need things to be “good” [carnally] for us to have joy and peace (**Romans 5:1-3**, **II Thessalonians 2:15-17**, and **I Peter 1:6-9**).

C. In Heaven ye have a better and an enduring substance (**Hebrews 10:34**).

1. That promise of life is through God's grace (**Romans 5:21**).
2. Unlike the treasures of this world (**Proverbs 23:5**), that inheritance won't fade away (**I Peter 1:4**).
3. We MUST keep the value of grace at the forefront of our minds with the hope of Heaven (**Colossians 1:5-6**) lest we trade it for a lesser enduring person, place, or thing (**Mark 8:34-38**).
4. If we don't consider God's grace enough, something will make us bitter and we will fall away (**Hebrews 12:15-17**).

III. Conclusion: Don't seek more from God. Saints have enough in the grace of God as Paul stated to the saints in Ephesus (**Ephesians 2:1-10**; cf. **Acts 19:1-7**).