

# MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT

LETTING THE POWER OF CHRIST REST UPON YOU

*“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee”*

~ 2 Corinthians 12:9

1. Paul Asks for Power
  - a. Did the Lord respond to Paul's thorn in the flesh with a cold blanket? God forbid.
  - b. Paul heard it and responded “gladly” in “glory” and taking “pleasure” ... why?
  - c. We talk about grace but can be ignorant of its power/strength.
2. Sufficient Grace
  - a. *“My grace”* - What Christ gives us when we are unable and undeserving. Rom 5:6-8
    - i. Grace is what God dispensed abundantly today, and it has power - Eph 3:7-9
    - ii. There is power in the preaching of the cross - 1 Cor 1:18, 23-24, Rom 1:16
  - b. Sufficient ~def. Enough; satisfies what is needed; competent power for the task; able.
  - c. Do you trust the sufficiency of God's grace? Is what he gives enough?
3. The Power of Christ
  - a. Jesus spoke these words and taught Paul the power of His grace. 2 Cor 12:9
  - b. *“my strength is made perfect in weakness”* – So, what can weakness do? Nothing.
  - c. Christ provides sufficient strength/power in suffering/lack/tribulation - Phi 4:11-13
  - d. God's power in Christ: Not distressed (overpowered), not in despair (hopeless), not forsaken (left alone), not destroyed (altogether lost/dead/no power) - 2 Cor 4:7-9
  - e. The greater power is not preventing death, but the power to die and live again. 4:17-18
  - f. One is protection; the other immortality. One is living, the other is living forever.
4. For Christ's Sake
  - a. Gladly glorying in his sufficient grace only possible for Christ's sake – not your own.
    - i. Grace means the glory is not found in you/your work, but in Christ. Col 1:27
  - b. *How can an unrighteous sinner be justified/saved/sanctified/glorified?*
    - i. “My grace is sufficient” – Rom 3:23-24, 4:4-5, 5:1-2
    - ii. Grace teaches law/good works/religion cannot save, God is able. 2 Cor 3:4-6
  - c. *How do we get more souls saved? What method, technique, practice? (1 Tim 2:4)*
    - i. “My grace is sufficient” – The message is the means.
    - ii. We do not need to make it more appealing, practical, engaging. 1 Cor 1:23-24
    - iii. God's grace saves those who need redemption, atonement, reconciliation.
  - d. *How do we walk/serve/live for God? Do we need a law written in our heart?*
    - i. “My grace is sufficient” – 2 Cor 9:7-8, Col 2:6, 2 Cor 5:7, 6:1
  - e. *Why does God allow evil to continue? Why does he not intervene to judge it/stop it?*
    - i. “My grace is sufficient” - Grace is what God gives today. To save wicked men.
    - ii. God's longsuffering with sin is testimony of grace given to the world - 2Pe 3:9
  - f. *How do I to live in suffering, weakness, pain, trouble?*
    - i. “My grace is sufficient” – He is strong in your weakness. You are in fellowship with him, to know his weakness/death, and to live his power/life. Phi 3:8-12
    - ii. When you suffer in faith, in hope, the power of Christ rests upon you.
    - iii. Christ can be magnified in your body, by life or death – Phi 1:20-21
  - g. When you have no strength, health, power, nothing for you to glory in save the cross.
  - h. What Paul thought was overwhelming power to keep him down, turned into the power of Christ in suffering, so as to magnify the power of Christ in him – the hope of glory.