

# Grace Is Sufficient For Thee

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2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- I. Grace is more than unmerited favor.
  - A. That is only one aspect of the grace of God.
  - B. Just the knowledge of God's unmerited favor alone would not be sufficient for all that we encounter while we live on this sin cursed earth.
  - C. Grace is much more than just the knowledge that God is favorably disposed toward us.
  - D. Of the vilest, most unrepentant, sinner who ever lived it could be said that he received the unmerited favor of God.
    - 1. Because the rain falls on the just and the unjust and God is kind to the unthankful and the evil.
    - 2. God showed him plenteous grace and mercy, but he rejected it to the end.

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

- E. So for Christians to call grace "unmerited favor" and stop there in their understanding of this matter is a great error and naturally gives a distorted view of salvation and the redeemed life.
- F. Grace must be more than just the favor of God.

- II. Grace is sufficient to deliver from the bondage of sin.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

- A. The same grace that brings us to Christ and the salvation of our souls, is the same grace that teaches us to live godly and righteously after we are saved.

Titus 2:11-13 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

- B. The grace of God is sufficient for this – if the grace of God has brought us to salvation, then our holy living and forsaking sin does not depend upon some other person instructing us.
- C. When people try to instruct other people in how to live holy it becomes a creed, a cult, a religion without the grace of God.
- D. The part we all have in helping one another to live holy is our example as we are partakers of the grace of God.

1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

- III. Sufficient to comfort in the deepest sorrow.

Genesis 5:29 And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.

Genesis 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. (first mention)

- A. The comfort of the Holy Ghost is a manifestation of the grace of God.
- B. Noah means “quiet, rest, and peace.”
- C. No child of God has ever found the grace of God insufficient in his deepest sorrow.
- D. God does just supply all our physical needs to meet the needs of the flesh – He supplies all that is needed for our soul’s needs – and in superabundance.
- E. We will surely have sorrow in this world, but no child of God will linger in despair, because the grace of God IS sufficient.
- F. Those who make allowance for despair in the life of a Christian obviously do not believe what the Bible says about the grace of God being sufficient.

IV. Sufficient to provide strength in the time of greatest weakness.

- A. This is when the grace of God shines the brightest – in our weakness.
  - 1. In the times when we are absolutely helpless and without any means of effecting our own deliverance.

My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness...

- B. We see so many people who appear to make an attempt at being a Christian, but they fall by the wayside and return to their old life of sin.
  - 1. We should not excuse them because of their weakness – God’s grace was sufficient for them, but they turned away from the grace of God.

V. Sufficient to give wisdom to the greatest of fools.

2 Corinthians 1:12 For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.

- A. A true Christian is someone who has been emptied of himself.
  - 1. He has recognized his self-confidence, self-esteem, self-reliance, and pride as being in opposition to God.
  - 2. He has come to the knowledge that he does not understand much of anything.
- B. This creates in him a sense of being unable to know what to do by himself.
- C. And this is what opens the door for the grace of God to give him wisdom from above.
- D. And that is exactly what happens – grace is sufficient for this, to give wisdom where there is none.

VI. Sufficient for whatever need may arise this side of heaven.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

- A. Grace is the power by which God delivers us as we trust Him – “by grace through faith.”
  - 1. That is the formula for all victory over sin, over sorrows, over troubles, over opposition, over persecution, over weakness, and even over death.
- B. Being in the grace of God is living in his presence and being under his influence.
- C. Knowing all this, and then knowing that we have the favor of God, that He is for us, and with us, and has promised not to ever leave us, is the cherry on top – not the sum of it all.

Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?