

WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN BELIEVERS
PART 3 - GRACE MULTIPLIED-PT 5
SUFFICIENT GRACE

2 PETER 1:2; 1 PETER 5:10; 2 CORINTHIANS 3:5

INTRODUCTION

1 Peter 5:10—“**But the God of all grace**, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.”

2 Corinthians 3:5—“Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;”

We come today to the last installment in these messages on the different types of **GRACE** that are available to us from our **GOD** whom **PETER** refers to in *1 Peter 5:10* as “**the God of all grace!**”

Now understand that we **HAVE NOT** covered **EVERY** type of **GRACE** that comes from our **GOD**. I don’t know if that is even possible to do! In fact, I’m quite sure that we’ve only scratched the surface when it comes to the **GRACE** that our **LORD CAN** and **DOES** provide in our hour of need.

So, today I want us to put **ALL OF THE GRACE** that comes from **GOD** under this one final heading of **SUFFICIENT GRACE!** The **LORD** told **PAUL** in *2 Corinthians 12:9*—“**And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee...**”

The word “**SUFFICIENT**” means “**competent (as if coming in season), that is, ample (in amount) or fit (in character)**”

GOD’S GRACE is **ALL OF THIS!** It comes **right on time, in the right amount**, and is **just exactly what is needed at the moment we need it!**

In looking at GOD’S SUFFICIENT GRACE, we need to see:

I. THE INSUFFICIENCY OF OURSELVES! (*Galatians 3:2-3*)

We live very much in a “**SELF HELP**” world! We like to think we can handle things ourselves and do things for ourselves without having to be dependent on anybody for help! But when it comes to the important things in life, “**SELF HELP**” won’t do!

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Mankind always **HAS BEEN** and **ALWAYS WILL BE** inadequate to secure **SALVATION** for self! The reason for this is because we were born “**spiritually dead**” when we came into this world. (*Ephesians 2:1*)

There are **ALL KINDS** of religions that seek to reach out to a god or gods and secure favor and be accepted based upon what the **FLESH** does!

People have **DONE** all sorts of things to make themselves **ACCEPTABLE TO GOD**, but it is **ALL INSUFFICIENT!**

Since the **FLESH** is **INSUFFICIENT** for **SALVATION**, why would we think it would be **SUFFICIENT** for anything else? (That’s Paul’s conclusion!)

If our **SUFFICIENCY** could be found in ourselves, why would we need **GOD** in the first place?

THE INSUFFICIENCY OF OURSELVES...

II. THE INSUFFICIENCY OF OTHERS!

Acts 4:12—“**Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**”

Most of us, no doubt, have tried to **HELP** others through some difficult or trying circumstances they were going through! We should do that when we can! It is always a good thing to **HELP** others!) But understand that on our own, even when we **do the best we can do**, we can and do fall short sometimes!

Also, there may have been others, whether it be our friends, family, or even a total stranger sometimes who have come to **OUR AID** in some difficult or trying circumstances we were going through.

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Sometimes they may have succeeded in **HELPING** us, but not always! Others can do the best they can, but **sometimes their best efforts fall short!**

There are **NONE OF US** who are **SUFFICIENT** in and of ourselves to help **ANYONE** and **EVERYONE** in **EVERY** bad circumstance of life!

Neither is there **ANYONE ELSE** in our earthly lives who can **ALWAYS** measure up to what we need!

That's because of our **HUMAN LIMITATIONS...**

- A. **We Have LIMITED KNOWLEDGE!**
i.e. Sometimes we don't **KNOW** what to do!
- B. **We Have LIMITED POWER!**
i.e. Sometimes we don't have the **ABILITY** to do what is needed!
- C. **We Have LIMITED RESOURCES!**
i.e. Sometimes we lack the money, tools, or other things needed to be able to help!
- D. **We Have LIMITED PRESENCE!**
i.e. Sometimes we are not where we need to be to do what is needed!

THE INSUFFICIENCY OF OURSELVES...OTHERS...

III. **THE INSUFFICIENCY OF OTHER THINGS!**

Matthew 16:26—“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

Money and resources may be helpful sometimes, but not always!

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IV. **THE SUFFICIENCY OF OUR GOD'S GRACE!**

GOD is **ALL** those things that **WE ARE NOT** and **MUCH MORE!** We see **GOD'S SUFFICIENCY** in *1 Peter 5:10*:

- A. **GOD Is SUFFICIENT To PERFECT (MATURE) Us!**
1 Peter 5:10—“*But the God of all grace...make you perfect.*”

GOD'S creation shows a pattern of **HIS ABILITY** to **MATURE** things! e.g. Fruits, Vegetables, Animals!

John 15:5—“*I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*”

If **GOD** can **MATURE THINGS**, then **HE** can surely **MATURE US** in our **SPIRITUAL LIVES** to bring us to **SPIRITUAL MATURITY!**

- B. **GOD Is SUFFICIENT To STABLISH (ESTABLISH) Us!**
1 Peter 5:10—“*But the God of all grace...stablish...you.*”

That word “*stablish*” means “*to set fast, that is, to make firm or stable.*”

Who better could there be to **ESTABLISH OUR LIFE** or **STABILIZE OUR LIFE** than **THE ONE WHO MADE US IN THE FIRST PLACE** and **THE ONE WHO RE-CREATED US NEW AGAIN!**

Colossians 2:6-7—“*As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.*”

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Romans 16:25—“Now to him **that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ,**”

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17—“Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, 17 Comfort your hearts, and **stablish you in every good word and work.**”

2 Thessalonians 3:3—“**But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.**”

GOD not only has the **POWER** to **ESTABLISH** our lives, but **HE** is **FAITHFUL** (or **DEPENDABLE**) to **ESTABLISH** us!

GOD Is SUFFICIENT To PERFECT Us...STABLISH Us...

C. GOD Is SUFFICIENT To STRENGTHEN Us!

1 Peter 5:10—“**But the God of all grace...strengthen...you.**”

Psalms 29:11—“**The LORD will give strength unto his people...**”

Isaiah 40:28-31; 41:10

Colossians 1:11—“**Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power...**”

D. GOD Is SUFFICIENT To SETTLE Us!

1 Peter 5:10—“**But the God of all grace...settle... you.**”

The word “**settle**” means “**to lay a basis for; erect; or consolidate.**”

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It is the same word translated “**founded**” in *Luke 6:48*:

Luke 6:47 - 48—“Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will show you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and **digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock:** and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was **founded upon a rock.**”

GOD is **ABLE** to bring **ALL OF HIS GRACE** together in our lives to **SETTLE OUR LIVES** and bring about a **STABILITY** in our lives to give us a **FOUNDATION TO BUILD OUR LIVES** that will **PLEASE HIM!**

Conclusion

Let me ask, what is your life **FOUNDED** upon? Do you have **GOD’S GRACE** in your life that comes through a relationship with **CHRIST** that comes **BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH** in **JESUS CHRIST**? Is **HE** your **FOUNDATION**?

1 Corinthians 3:11—“**For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**”

All other ground is nothing but sinking sand and will not be able to withstand the storms of life!

Only the **GRACE** that comes through **JESUS CHRIST** can give you a proper **FOUNDATION** for **GOD** to bring **ALL OF HIS GRACE** together in your life.

Only **GOD’S GRACE** is **SUFFICIENT** for our lives...
*HIS GRACE is SUFFICIENT TO PERFECT US...STABLISH US...
STRENGTHEN US...SETTLE US!*