

24 October 2021

Paul's Experience with God

2 Corinthians, Part 16 (chapter 12)



Conclusion of Paul's defence of his apostleship and his love for the believers in Corinth:

1. **God** _____ **Paul** (vs 1-6)

The Judaizers needed others to honour them. (2 Corinthians 3:1)

- (a) Numerous _____
- (b) Majority of _____
- (c) A special _____
(Ephesians 2:6)

2. **God** _____ **Paul** (vs 7-8)

Sometimes we just don't know why we suffer in this life.

- (a) Sometimes we suffer by _____
- (b) Sometimes we suffer through _____
- (c) Sometimes God uses it to _____

3. **God** _____ **Paul** (vs 9-10)

God's message to him was one of _____ - it is sufficient. Sometimes God does not remove the affliction, but gives us His grace so that the affliction works _____ and not against us.

Application:

- 1. Pain _____
- 2. Pain has _____
- 3. Pain has _____

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know— God knows. ³And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows— ⁴was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell. ⁵I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. ⁶Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, ⁷or because of these surpassingly great revelations.

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.

⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties.

For when I am weak, then I am strong.