

UNPACKING THE WORD FOR APRIL 26, 2020 SERMON ENTITLED “GOD’S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT: A PERSPECTIVE ON WAITING DURING THE CORONAVIRUS”

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT: 2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10. (LISTEN FREE OF CHARGE TO THE ENTIRE MESSAGE ON THIS WEBSITE. JUST GO TO [SERMONS.](#))

ANTITHESIS: (EXCERPT FROM SERMON) – “Because God is sovereign over everyone and everything, and because He is also sovereign over the Coronavirus, His grace is sufficient for us. But, there are still people in our state and country who resist His grace to their own detriment. Instead of taking the virus with deadly seriousness, some crazily contend that it is a lie. Health care workers, survivors of the virus, and a wealth of medical scientists continue to speak out in support of social distancing and prevention, while others are using the virus for political purposes.”

GENERAL THESIS: Since we believe in God’s sovereignty, let us wait in faith based upon scientific facts about the danger of the virus spreading, knowing God’s grace is sufficient.

APPLICATION: Paul asked three times for his thorn to be removed. God said, “My grace is sufficient for you.”

Three Points of Application

The first lesson is found in verse 7, and here is what it says, “**And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.**” God has a way of leveling the playing field. God can take very powerful people and place them at the mercy of people they thought they were too good to talk to.

The second lesson is found in verses 8 & 9a, and here is what it says, “**Concerning this thing (scripture does not reveal it) I pleaded with the Lord**

three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” God does not always give us what we ask of Him. The Apostle Paul pleaded 3 times for the thorn to be removed, but he was not rewarded with the pleasure of his request. Let's be real. For many, they love quarantine. For others, they hate it. (There is more to this point in the audio).

The third lesson is found in verses 9b&10. (I have abbreviated some of the key points here that are in the audio.). Some are waiting, but they're not waiting on Him. They're waiting in anger, political divisiveness, anger and partisanship when this has affected the whole world. What small thinking!

Trying to enact vengeance. Romans 12:19 says vengeance is mine I will repay saith the Lord. Everything done in confusion and hatred will unravel. What is conceived in sin brings forth the fruit of that sin. There is a better way.

In Psalm 27:14 David, a man after God's own heart has a message for us He says, “Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, and He will strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord.”

Amen.