

FAMILY MINISTRIES: JANUARY 10, 2021

THE THORN IN THE FLESH (2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-12)

2 CORINTHIANS 12:1-10

1. Boasting is necessary, though it is not profitable; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.
2. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven.
3. And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows—
4. was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.
5. On behalf of such a man I will boast; but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in regard to *my* weaknesses.
6. For if I do wish to boast I will not be foolish, for I will be speaking the truth; but I refrain *from this*, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees *in* me or hears from me.
7. Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!
8. Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.
9. And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.
10. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

GALATIANS 4:15

Where then is that sense of blessing you had? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me.

GALATIANS 6:11

I have confidence in you in the Lord that you will adopt no other view; but the one who is disturbing you will bear his judgment, whoever he is.

2 CORINTHIANS 11:13-15

13. For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

14. No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

15. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:4

For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.

JAMES 4:6-10

6. But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

7. Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

8. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

9. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.

10. Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

JAMES 1:2-5

2. Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

3. knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

4. And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

5. But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.