



COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

February 27, 2022

2 Corinthians 12:1-10: Devine Power In Our Weakness

Divine power is best displayed against the backdrop of human weakness. (Bible Knowledge Commentary)

(2) Who is this man?

(3-4)

Third Heaven (Paradise): the dwelling place of God.

(5-7a)

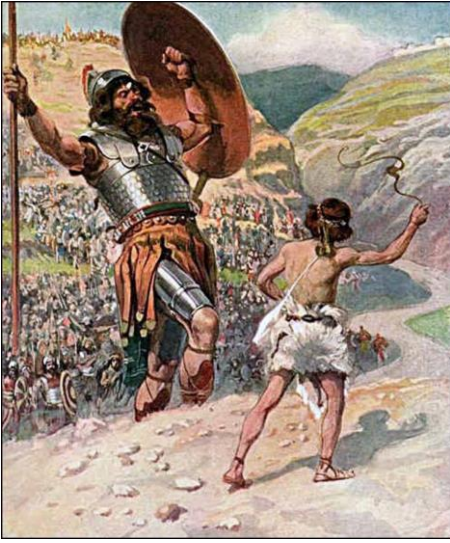
And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

(7b)

A thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.

(9)

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Because of the extravagance of those revelations, and so I wouldn't get a big head, I was given the gift of a handicap to keep me in constant touch with my limitations. Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees. No danger then of walking around high and mighty! At first I didn't think of it as a gift, and begged God to remove it. Three times I did that, and then he told me, "My grace is enough; it's all you need.

My strength comes into its own in your weakness." Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen. I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitations that cut me down to size—abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks. I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become.

(2 Corinthians 12:7-10, MSG)

"I hate MS, but I am thankful for what the Lord has brought out in me and in our marriage and in our family because of MS."

(Greg Esquibel)

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*“We are grateful for what the loss of Ty has wrought in our life. We no longer live for this world but for the world to come.”
(The Edmistons)*

Divine power is best displayed against the backdrop of human weakness. (Bible Knowledge Commentary)

“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a WRETCH like me.” (John Newton)

Divine power (and grace) is best displayed against the backdrop of human weakness. (Bible Knowledge Commentary)

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. (1 Timothy 1:15)

HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 12:1-10:

1. Why do you think Paul continues to boast? What is the purpose of it? What does verse 6 imply about typical boasting? What is the basis for all boasting and at what point does it become foolish?
2. Why do you think Paul mentioned such a humiliating experience (11:32-33) before mentioning such a glorious one (12:1-6)?
3. Do you think “thorns in the flesh” automatically come with visions, revelation, or direct contact with God?
4. How should one view someone who goes around broadcasting the vision or revelation they have had? Read the following passages:
 - 1 John 4:1
 - Galatians 1:8
 - Hebrews 1:1-2
5. Do you think that divine power is best displayed in our weakness? What role does humility play in this process? Do you think the thorn in the flesh played a part in this?