

**THE SUFFICIENCY OF GOD'S GRACE -  
to ENABLE You to SERVE Jesus Christ & Become More  
& More TRANSFORMED into His Image  
(2 Corinthians 2:12-3:18)**

**B. GOD'S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT - to ENABLE you to SERVE JESUS CHRIST & to experience  
INTERNAL TRANSFORMATION into His Image. (2 Cor. 2:14-3:18)**

- What are some issues you face in proclaiming the Gospel of grace to others?
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ {Prov. 29:25a; Ephesians 6:19-20}
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ {Colossians 4:3}
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE MESSAGE {Colossians 4:4}
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ TO SEE THE OPPORTUNITIES & HOW TO PROCEED {Colossians 4:5}
  - 5) \_\_\_\_\_ IN SPEECH & CONDUCT {Colossians 4:6}
  - 6) HOW TO GET \_\_\_\_\_ {Acts 8:30}
  - 7) HOW TO \_\_\_\_\_ ONCE YOU GET STARTED {Acts 8:31-35}
  - 8) THE \_\_\_\_\_ THAT RAGES {Eph. 6:11-12; I Cor. 16:9; 2 Thess. 3:1-2}
  - 9) THE SENSE OF \_\_\_\_\_ {2 Cor. 3:5a}
  - 10) THE WILLINGNESS TO TRUST IN \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 3:5b)

**1. The TRANSPARENCY of God's Grace allowing the Believer's ADMISSION. (2:12-13)**

- What was Paul's passion and what was his ministry centered in? 12 *Furthermore, when I came to Troas to \_\_\_\_\_*. {the Gospel of Christ}. What is the Gospel?
- What happened when Paul arrived in Troas? *and a \_\_\_\_\_ {opportunity} was \_\_\_\_\_ to me {how?}* \_\_\_\_\_. Note both divine sovereignty & human responsibility in evangelism as he walked by faith to do God's will.
- Did Paul remain and evangelize in Troas? \_\_\_\_\_ {Why?} *I had \_\_\_\_\_* {no peace of mind due to an overwhelming burden of concern for the Corinthian church & Titus}, *because I did not find Titus my brother*; {so what did Paul do?} *but taking my leave of them, I departed for Macedonia* {to rendezvous with Titus}. This explains Paul change of plans and shares his great love & concern for the church at Corinth.} But observe how God's grace allows you to admit your weaknesses and burdens while knowing that you are accepted in the Beloved and that you can still turn to the Lord for relief and deliverance, even from yourself. When & how did this relief & deliverance come for Paul?

**2. The TRIUMPH of God's Grace in the Believer's PROCLAMATION. (2:14-17)**

- How does God want to use you (as a believer) toward the unsaved? (2:14) *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_* {the human instrument, He} *diffuses the fragrance of \_\_\_\_\_ in every place.*
- How does God divide all mankind? (2:15) *For we are to God the fragrance of \_\_\_\_\_ among those who are being \_\_\_\_\_ and among those who are \_\_\_\_\_*. (cf. 1 Cor. 1:18)
- Did Paul expect everyone to believe the Gospel? (2:16a) *To the one we {by preaching Gospel} are the aroma of death leading to \_\_\_\_\_, and to the other the aroma of life leading to \_\_\_\_\_*.

- What should this serious responsibility of preaching the Gospel with its eternal significance cause you to sense? (2:16b) *And who is \_\_\_\_\_ for these things?*
- Instead of a genuine love for Christ and concern for the eternal destiny of others, what motivates some preachers? (2:17a) *For we are not, as so \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the word of God.* {Is motive when preaching the Gospel important to God? - Phil. 1:12-2:4}
- In contrast to these religious hucksters, what should be true of you & me? (2:17b) *For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of \_\_\_\_\_ {his motive}, but as \_\_\_\_\_ God {as to his mission & message coming from God}, we speak in the \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ {cognizant of our position in Christ & with a mentality that God, first & foremost, is our audience - 2 Cor. 5:10}.*

### 3. The TRANSFORMATION of God's Grace in the Believer's Ongoing SANCTIFICATION. (3:1-18)

- Did Paul need a letter of commendation or introduction to the Corinthian Church? \_\_\_\_ Why not? (3:1-3) *Do we begin again to commend ourselves? Or do we need, as some others, epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you?* {NO! Why did he say this and why was it not needed?} 2 \_\_\_\_\_ *are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; 3 clearly you are an epistle of \_\_\_\_\_, {through what means did that happen?} \_\_\_\_\_ {the human means through preaching the Gospel & teaching them the Word of His grace}, **written not with ink but by \_\_\_\_\_ of the living God** {the divine medium; what was the paper for this letter?} **not on tablets of stone** {externally like the 10 commandments} **but on tablets of flesh, that is, of \_\_\_\_\_** {internally; it was saved people, not stationary paper.}.*
- Was Paul confident of his calling & what God via the Holy spirit could do in believer's lives through the message of grace he preached? (3:4) *And we have such \_\_\_\_\_ through Christ toward God.*
- What must the Lord teach you negatively regarding yourself and human resources regarding life & ministry? (3:5a) *Not that we are sufficient \_\_\_\_\_ to think of anything as being \_\_\_\_\_,*
- What must the Lord impress upon you positively regarding His divine resources and your ministry? (3:5b-6a) *but our sufficiency is \_\_\_\_\_,* Did Paul have to learn this truth at salvation {Phil. 3:4-9} and over & over again in his daily Christian walk {2 Cor. 1:8-9; 12:9-10} and service for Jesus Christ {2 Cor. 3:6; Col. 1:28-29} *who also made us \_\_\_\_\_ as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter* {the Law} *but of the \_\_\_\_\_; for the letter* {the Law} *kills, but the \_\_\_\_\_ gives life.* What is the issue being addressed & what did Paul mean when he referred to "ministers of the New Covenant"?
- What does Paul then contrast in vs. 7-11?
- While Paul had great boldness due to the power of the Gospel & the Holy Spirit, what was he facing when it came to preaching the Gospel to Jews specifically & Gentiles generally? {3:12-17}
- What does spiritual transformation involve personally? **But** {it starts with salvation - in contrast to those with veiled hearts who have not turned in faith to the Lord} **we** {believers in Christ needing practical sanctification & spiritual growth} **all, with unveiled face,** \_\_\_\_\_ {mental occupation - the human condition of transformation} **as in a \_\_\_\_\_** {the WOG - 1 Cor. 13:12; James 1:23} what are we to behold?} **the \_\_\_\_\_,** {the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ; what is the result?} **are \_\_\_\_\_** {present tense - ongoing; passive voice - God does it in you; indicative mood of metamorphoo - the reality of internal transformation; Romans 12:1-2} **into** {what?} **the same image** {the image of Jesus Christ} **from \_\_\_\_\_** {a process requiring time}, **just as by** {the supernatural medium} **the \_\_\_\_\_.** (3:18)
- How does all of this apply to you?