

**THE SUFFICIENCY OF GOD'S PROVISIONS -
to Enable You to Become a Passionate Ambassador for Christ in the
Ministry and Message of Reconciliation God has Entrusted to You. Pt. 3
(5:14-6:2)**

- What are God's purposes in His plan of the ages & for your life?

**THE PURPOSES OF GOD IN HUMAN HISTORY
GLORY**



- What did our Lord instruct His disciples to do after His death & resurrection? (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15) Has this GC ever been rescinded? What does the GC ultimately result in?

A. GOD'S MERCIES ARE SUFFICIENT TO COMFORT YOU & TEACH YOU VALUABLE LESSONS in all Your TRIBULATIONS. (2 Cor. 1:3-12)

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)

C. GOD'S POWER IS SUFFICIENT - to ENCOURAGE You in Your MINISTRY FOR CHRIST & in the POWER of the GOSPEL to SAVE those Blinded by Satan. (4:1-7)

D. GOD'S ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE IS SUFFICIENT to FORTIFY You to ENDURE HARDSHIP in being FAITHFUL now & REWARDED later by Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 4:8-15)

E. GOD'S UNFAILING PROMISES ARE SUFFICIENT - to Give You HOPE for the FUTURE and CLEAR DIRECTION in TIME. (2 Cor. 4:16 - 5:11)

F. GOD'S AGAPE LOVE IS SUFFICIENT - to MOTIVATE you to LIVE for HIM who DIED for YOU. (2 Cor. 5:12-15)

G. GOD'S POSITION IN CHRIST IS SUFFICIENT - for You as a NEW CREATION IN CHRIST. (2 Cor. 5:16-17)

H. GOD'S PROVISIONS ARE SUFFICIENT – to become a PASSIONATE AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST in the ministry & message of reconciliation God has entrusted to you. (2 Cor. 5:16-6:2)

- What are 10 key scriptural principles in becoming a *passionate ambassador for Christ*? (2 Cor. 5:14ff)
 1. Our *perpetual focus* must begin with JESUS CHRIST & our relationship & fellowship with Him. (5:14a)
 2. Our *primary motivation* is the LOVE OF CHRIST which COMPELS us by reminding us of His SUBSTITUTIONARY DEATH & BODILY RESURRECTION which provided salvation for us. (5:14b)

3. Our *perspective of ourselves* is that we are immensely LOVED by God and ETERNALLY SECURE IN CHRIST and are now IDENTIFIED with Christ's death & resurrection so that we DIED with Christ positionally and now are spiritually ALIVE in Him. (5:14c-15a)
4. Our *purpose in life* should NO LONGER be to live for OURSELVES but now for JESUS CHRIST who died for us and rose again. (5:15b-c; Phil. 1:20-21)
5. Our *perspective of others* needs to be transformed to become a passionate ambassador for Christ {Romans 12:1-2} so that we now view individuals from GOD'S POINT OF VIEW. (5:16-17)
6. Our *personal recognition* to become a passionate AMBASSADOR for Christ requires us to factor in the GRACE OF GOD and the ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION. (5:18)
7. Our *precise knowledge* of the _____ is crucial as it is the _____ of reconciliation that God wants us to accurately proclaim to the lost. (5:19) *that is* {namely, in other words}, *that God* {the Father, the initiator & provider of reconciliation} *was* _____ {the means & position of reconciliation} *reconciling* {presently, one by one - not universalism} *the world* {of lost sinners} *to Himself* {the goal of reconciliation}, *not* _____ {reckoning, imputing, counting} *their* {those whom God has reconciled in Christ} _____ {one of several words for sin - deliberate stepping over the line in rebellion toward God} *to them* {the reconciled - this means they are totally forgiven as a benefit of reconciliation - Romans 4:7-8; Psalm 32:1-2; 130:3-4; 103:12; Acts 10:43; Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:13; 1 John 2:12} *and* {God} *has* _____ {entrusted} *to us* {all believers in Christ, not a select few} *the* {the - referring to something definite} _____ {the message - Acts 13:26, 15:7; 1 Cor. 1:18; Phil. 2:16; Eph. 1:13; Col. 1:5} *of reconciliation*. Is getting the Gospel right a serious issue with God? Should it be a serious issue for you? But what value is there in knowing the Gospel accurately but then not sharing it with others?
8. Our *passion increases* as an ambassador for Christ when we grasp that God is _____ to others _____ so that we _____ the lost to be reconciled to God through _____. (5:20-21) *Now then* {therefore}, *we* {all believers in Christ} *are* _____ *for* {hyper- on behalf of} _____ {Whom we represent on foreign turf on as a sign of friendship & good will from God in order to establish a harmonious relationship / reconciliation, to plead on Christ's behalf, to carry out His business, and to appeal or make the case for the Lord who sent the ambassadors to the appropriate individuals} *as though God were* _____ {dia - through as an instrument God uses} _____ {all believers in Christ - what does this involve towards the lost?}: *we* _____ {strongly urge - Gal. 4:12; 2 Cor. 8:4, 10:2; Acts 21:39} *you* {the unreconciled to God} *on Christ's behalf* {hyper- on behalf of Christ}, *"be reconciled* {aorist tense; active voice; imperative mood} *to God*. What can we learn about ambassadors in the first century that relate to us today? Is there ever a place to personally appeal / strongly urge the lost to place their faith in Christ alone & be reconciled to God? Do they have a choice in responding to this appeal? How must this be handled wisely & scripturally?

21 *For* {this either introduces a further explanation of the message we proclaim or like the ESV - "for our sake"} _____ {God the Father, vs.20} *made* _____ {Jesus Christ - the means or basis of reconciliation} *who knew* _____ {Christ as the sinless & spotless Lamb of God had no personal experience or participation with sin - hamartia - John 8:46; Heb. 4:15; John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:19; 1 John 3:5} _____ {the price, cost, or sacrifice of reconciliation - this does not mean that Christ became sinful or a sinner but a sin offering - Isa. 53:5,10; this Greek word 'hamartia' is used for the 'sin offering' in the Septuagint - LXX in Lev 4:8, 20, 21, 24, 25, 29, 32; 5:9, 12; 6:17, 25; 8:2, 14; Hos 4:8; Num 6:14} _____ {hyper- on our behalf; in our place} *us* {lost sinner}, _____ {hina - introduces a purpose clause explaining the purpose of Christ's substitutionary sacrifice for sin} *we might* _____ {aorist, middle, subjunctive of ginomai - underscores divine objective but not necessarily guaranteed result - to become something we weren't before - what? } *the* _____ *of God* {imputed righteousness, not imparted, as part of justification before God &

reconciliation - where is this found?) _____ {in Jesus Christ - positional truth in Christ is the purpose & result of God's great exchange}. How does this righteousness of God become your personally?

9. Our *power* to be a faithful & passionate ambassador for Christ does not rest in our wisdom & strength {2 Cor. 4:7} but in the power of the _____ message {Rom. 1:16}, the power of the convicting ministry of the _____ {John 16:7-10; Col. 1:28-29; John 15:4-5; Zech. 4:6} , and the power of _____ for the saved & the lost. What specific things should we pray for in our or others evangelism?

- To raise up and send forth Gospel laborers. (Matt. 9:37-38)
- For doors of opportunity & clarity in presenting the Gospel. (Col. 4:2-3)
- For God's enablement to speak the Gospel with boldness. (Eph. 6:18-20)
- For the Gospel to spread rapidly & be glorified by people believing it. (2 Thess. 3:1)
- For God's servants to be protected & delivered from unreasonable & wicked men. (2 Thess. 3:2)
- For favorable conditions for evangelism to occur. (1 Tim. 2:1-7)

10. Our *practical application* of these scriptural principles should cause us to become passionate ambassadors for Christ with a sense of great _____
_____ in our witness to the lost. (6:1-2) *We then* {by way of application}, *as* _____ {what an amazing privilege we are so inadequate for in ourselves} *also* {in addition to pleading with the unsaved} _____ {strongly urge} *with you* {believers - what is the content of the appeal?} _____ *to receive the* _____ {without allowing the grace of God to accomplish its practical purposes in your sanctification & service for the Lord; useless; minus God's intended results - 1 Cor. 15:10, 58; 1 Thess. 2:1, 3:5}.

2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, _____ is the accepted time; behold, _____ is the day of salvation. Do you sense the urgency to proclaim the Gospel and for the lost to receive it?

- What are some *practical recommendations* for presenting the Gospel clearly & with confidence?
 1. Learn well an evangelistic method of presenting the Gospel for those with a 'Christian' background such as *THE SURVEY method & the JOHN 3:16 diagram*:
 - a. Scott Johnson's presentation at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnGUAvDXLuo&t=25s> or
 - b. Kurt Witzig's presentation at:
 - c. a 7-minute video presentation of John 3:16 Illustrated - https://youtu.be/S8vnW_tu0ms
 - d. sitting in and watching someone at Smiley or the GA National Fair, and attending our upcoming evangelistic training sessions in August at GTBC
 - e. using our digital John 3:16 Illustrated presentation at our website gracetruthbible.org
 - f. John 3:16 booklet with colored graphics - https://www.gracegospelpress.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/John-3_16-Booklet-2nd-edition-colored.pdf
 2. Learn for those with little 'Christian' background using a *CREATION TO CHRIST approach* one on one or as a small group such as:
 - a. books by Good Seed International with John Cross such as

- *The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus* - helpful for those with “Christian’ backgrounds:
- *By This Name* - helpful for anyone; in multiple languages
- *All the Prophets Have Spoken* - Muslim version; or
- *The Lamb* - children’s version

b. *The King of Glory* by Paul Bramsen of Rock International

- in book form from *Rock Int’l*, and also available on
- *YouTube* with excellent animation & clarity in 50 plus languages at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z3OYJbu4tSA&t=4871s>

c. A chronological approach like:

3. Utilize accurate Gospel _____ that present the Gospel clearly. Where can you find these?

- a. *Grace Gospel Press* {free download at <https://www.gracegospelpress.org/free-downloads>; you can also order in bulk from GGP; }
- b. *In Grace* - <https://ingrace.us/store-tracts/>
- c. John 3:16 Illustrated - https://www.gracegospelpress.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/John-3_16-Booklet-2nd-edition-colored.pdf

d. *The Gospel* by Ron Shea - www.cleargospel.org

4. It helps to be prepared personally {John 15:4-5} and ministry-wise to address basic objections to Christianity when needed. You can observe me answer 16 *Basic Objections* in 3 studies at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTWqzyiN5c&list=PLkMUW_k3_Np7GyppyN1B174gWViv8hGx_&index=11

5. Remember the importance of _____ as God must work in hearts, open doors, and divinely enable you. (Col. 4:2-6)

6. You need to be _____ to preach the Gospel for you never know when an opportunity will afford itself. (Rom.1:15; 1 Peter 3:15)

7. The _____ brings a snare (Prov.29:25), but God can enable you to be _____. (1 Thess.2:2; Ephesians 6:19-20)

8. Don’t forget the serious issues at hand - _____!