

Wesley Wright

Lighthouse Bible Church

Sunday, October 4, 2026

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Title: God's grace, sufficient

Remember, Paul was vague for the sake of being humble where his vision + revelation was concerned. He was ministry-first, not vision-first, and wanted readers to understand that.

**We'll talk about a certain thorn Paul
says he had today. Is it a literal thorn?
Is it a physical sickness? What do we
make our God not removing the thorn?
Where does His grace come in?**

**God said the inhabitants of the land
would be a thorn if the people did not
destroy them: Numbers 33:50-56**

**If the people of Israel followed after
other nations, those strangers would be
a thorn in their eyes: Joshua 23:6-13**

**Strangers would be a significant
nuisance to the disobedient people of
Israel: Judges 2:1-5**

The Bible isn't explicitly clear about the thorn Paul had, but whatever it was, it was a messenger of the evil one to torment him. Why does that matter?

**The evil one sought to prove that Job
would curse God having been physically
struck with boils: Job 2:4-10**

**The evil one sought even to have Jesus
Christ bow to him: Matthew 4:1-11**

**Paul delivered a man to the evil one
with the goal of eventually bringing that
man back into the fold: 1 Corinthians
5:1-5**

**It's true that Paul had this thorn, and
true that the evil one tormented him.**

**Remember that our God has control
even over the operations of satan in this
dark world, as evil as those operations
are.**

Paul's prayed three times for God to remove the thorn, but God declined to do so. Instead, he made it clear that His grace was sufficient instead.

Think of grace here as a way that God gave Paul the strength to endure. He (Paul) isn't alone in having enjoyed that grace from God.

**Jesus Christ also prayed three times,
and His Father provided gracefully
when the time came: Luke 22:39-46**

**The Bible isn't clear about the thorn
Paul had, but it was there ultimately for
His glory. God can take something evil
and use it for our ultimate good:
Romans 8:26-32, Proverbs 13:22**

**Rejoice when others persecute you for
his sake: Matthew 5:11-12**

**Remember Nebuchadnezzar? He
exalted himself but later understood his
evil ways, and exalted the One who
should be exalted: Daniel 4:31-37**

Paul has a thorn given to him to keep him from exalting himself. God didn't remove the thorn because His grace is sufficient.

**That grace was sufficient for Paul, and
it's sufficient for us. May we all be
gracious to one another with that in
mind, and remember that all of our
sufficiency comes from our God.**