

POWER IN WEAKNESS

October 11, 2020 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 by Bob Branch
Real Faith in Raw Times, part 20

BIG IDEA: Your power-in-weakness connection is the conduit for God's resurrection power in and through you.

¹ I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. ² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. ³ And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—⁴ was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell. [EXPERIENCES] ⁵ I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. ⁶ Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, ⁷ or because of these surpassingly great revelations. [REALISTIC]

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. [GOD SAID, "NO."] ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." [ENOUGH] Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. [LEAN]
2 Corinthians 12:1-10

¹ _____ are a mixed-bag. (Mat. 17:1-5)

² _____ is how God sees you.

"Don't think of yourself more highly than you should. Be reasonable when you think about yourself."

Romans 12:3 NIV

RATE: God's gift—God's Assessment—Worm side

³ God said, "_____."

"My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will... My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

Matthew 26:39, 42 CSB

⁴ God is _____ for you.

"You don't realize God is all you need until God is all you have." Tim Keller

"The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." **Exodus 14:14** (Mt. 11:28)

Where are you struggling that you need to surrender to him, give it over, come under his care, and let him and his grace be sufficient?

⁵ Embrace your weakness and _____ into him. (1:3-10)