

## ENTERING GOD'S BLESSING

October 23, 2022 2 Cor. 12:7-10 By Bob Branch  
The Presence of the Future series, part 2

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**BIG IDEA:** How to find the King and his kingdom in the midst of the tensions, traumas and conundrums of life.  
*Entering into Beatitude reality.*

“Therefore, so that I would not exalt myself, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to torment me so that I would not exalt myself.

<sup>8</sup> Concerning this, I pleaded with the Lord three times that it would leave me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is perfected in weakness.”

Therefore, I will most gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may reside in me.

<sup>10</sup> So I take pleasure in weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and in difficulties, for the sake of Christ.

For when I am weak, then I am strong.” **2 Corinthians 12:7-10** CSB

- 1 **Hard** \_\_\_\_\_ **arise**—something difficult, perplexing
- 2 **We** \_\_\_\_\_—to get out of it.
- 3 **We** \_\_\_\_\_ **it**—prayer is one thing we tend to do only as a **last resort**.
- 4 **Prayer did not** \_\_\_\_\_ **it** or make it go away.  
God answers: **yes, no, wait**. With a question?
- 5 **We ask God to show us** \_\_\_\_\_.

6 **We** \_\_\_\_\_ and his kingdom, **Grace**, in it.

7 **Our** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
**toward the issue changes.**

Applying to the Beatitudes:

- ✓ When you are **spiritually impoverished**.
- ✓ When you are in **deep grief, pain and loss**.
- ✓ When you are **humble yourself**.
- ✓ When you are **starving for things to be set right**.
- ✓ When you **extend mercy** instead of judgment.
- ✓ When you **love God and others deeply**.
- ✓ When you work tangibly to **reconcile** divided people.
- ✓ When you **experience rejection and abuse** for being on God’s side.

**My grace is sufficient.**

**My kingdom in you, for you, with you— is enough.**

**PRAYER:** Lord, I come to you knowing I resist tension, hardship and struggles. They are the last place I want to look for you. Open my eyes to see things the way you see them. Help me to see how these might be opportunities for me to see you clearly and discern how you might want to use me in the future. As you open my eyes, help me to adjust to your perspective and draw on your strength. Your grace is sufficient for me. You and your kingdom are enough. In Jesus' name, amen.