

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

¹ **Boasting** is necessary, though it is not profitable; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago— whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven. ³ And I know how such a man— whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴ was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak. ⁵ On behalf of such a man I will **boast**; but on my own behalf I will not **boast**, except in regard to **my weaknesses**. ⁶ For if I do wish to **boast** I will not be foolish, for I will be speaking the truth; but I refrain *from this*, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees *in me* or hears from me.

⁷ Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations,

➤ **for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself,**

there was given me **a thorn in the flesh,**

➤ **a messenger of Satan to torment me—**

➤ **to keep me from exalting myself!**

⁸ Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

⁹ And He has said to me,

“**My grace** is sufficient for you,
for **power** is perfected **in weakness**.”

Most gladly, **therefore**, I will rather **boast** about **my weaknesses**, so that **the power of Christ** may dwell in me.

¹⁰ **Therefore** I am well content

- **with weaknesses,**
- with insults,
- with distresses,
- with persecutions,
- with difficulties,

for Christ's sake;

for **when** I am weak,
then I am strong.