

KINGDOM MINISTRIES

**CHRISTIAN CELEBRATION CENTER CHURCH
CAYA
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A Bee Stings; It Also Pollinates!!!

Sermonic Text: “II Corinthians 12:1-10

- This letter is the writing of a man who is writing about his experience with God and the development of his strength
- His testimony encourages suffering believers to believe that they should glory in their weakness and evangelizes continually.

Paul’s message expresses his belief that boasting of any kind is distasteful and that no good can come from it:

Paul would rather share about his Visions and Revelations:

- **Visions** –those mental pictures that were given to him which had definite shape or form.
- **Revelations** – the “truth made clear” and apprehended by the sight of the soul.

Paul is relating in this letter an experience that he experienced after he became “a man of Christ” (some 14 years earlier); he was taken up into the third heaven to receive revelation:

- **First heaven-the atmosphere that surrounds the earth(Hosea 2:18 ; Daniel 7:13)**
- **Second heaven- is that of the stars (Gen. 1: 14-18)**
- **Third heaven- Paul calls “Paradise” (2 Cor. 12:3-4; Lk. 23: 43; Rev. 2:7) is the abode of God and the home of all departed believers (2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23)**
- **It was some kind of ecstasy the contents of which can’t be described.**
- **He heard words which can’t be uttered.**
- **This privilege and revelation granted Paul the strength to endure the long and severe suffering that came to him.**

Paul also referenced in his letters the source of his strength: (Rm. 8:18 & 2 Tim. 4:8 amp. read)

Paul's thorn in the flesh: (12:6-7 read)

- Paul felt boasting may give a false impression; but rather ask people to be judged based upon the life he lives and the message he preaches
- Paul's thorn...the "messenger" from Satan has a "name"; (Greek "aggelos", pronounced "angelo"...meaning angel of Satan!(one of the angels that fell with Satan)
- "Aggelos" followed Paul and harassed him when he was tempted to become exalted...Paul wrote about how he was "stung" to keep him humble: (2 Cor. 11:23-28)
- Paul was in fellowship with Christ's feelings and in sympathy with his heart and compassion.
- Paul's shared suffering with Christ
 - Tribulation encountered in serving God –(Acts 14:22)
 - His Torment of the "Spirit" because of overwhelming sin in society - (Acts 17:16)
 - Serving the Lord with "tears"- (Acts 2:4)
 - Warning the church" night and day with "tears" for a period of 3 years due to distortion of the gospel through teachers not faithful to Biblical Apostolic Faith- (Acts 20:31)

We as believers also suffer:

- We experience ongoing suffering as a result of the fall of Adam & Eve.
- We suffer for the same reason unbelievers do...as a consequence of their own action.
- We suffer in our inner selves, because we live in a sinful corrupt world.
- We suffer at the hands of the devil. He has been given power to afflict (sting) us in many ways; Satan and his believers delight in persecuting believers for their faith.
- We suffer because we have the mind of Christ.
- God Himself may use suffering in our lives as a catalyst to spiritual growth or change.
- He uses suffering to call His straying people to repent of their sins and renew their faith and trust in him.
- God sometimes uses suffering to test our faith, to see whether we will remain faithful to Him.
- Finally, God can use the suffering of the righteous to further the cause of His kingdom and His plan of salvation...ex. Joseph at the hands of his brothers.
- We have been stung through marriage relationships gone sour, family problems, business set-backs, financial reversal, loss of a family member or friend...if you breath its guaranteed at some point in your life unhappiness, hurting or suffering will manifest...THE STING!!!

Conclusion:

- If you have never faced the devil head on; it could be you are going in the same direction.
- The devil is the source of your being stung...destruction, lack, loss, pain, cruelty, and confusion!
- The key to being **stung** ...don't stop there. The attack that you experience like Paul makes you stronger. -**(Ps.4:1-read)**
- View your trouble as a time of preparation for you to go forth in your new found strength and “pollinate”...don't go somewhere and hibernate.
- Remember, God is not through with you...no matter what. - **(Micah 7:8) – read**
- Forget the pain/history and focus on your destiny. – **(Jer.29:11)-read**

Remember, I am a believer---I am a receiver---I won't be stopped:

**Go
out into the community,
Gather
them into a
Group
Teaching them Gods way and the will
Grow
And discover His will and
Give
To the global community**

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