The Sustaining Power Of God

Albert Dickson · 2 Corinthians 6:4–10 · Series: **Working Together With God**

INTRODUCTION

- That is how he and those who were serving and proclaiming the gospel message, going through all of those difficulties, were able to do that and remain faithful. It was because of the power of God.
- What we mean by sustain, and that is to uphold, to bear, to support as a foundation supports the structure of a building.
- And if God did that for Paul, how much more He will do that for us as His children today.

1 The Mercy and Comfort That God Supplies

2 Corinthians 1:3–7

- Paul is telling us in these verses that the sustaining power of God is expressed in the mercy and comfort that God supplies.
- The sufferings, the hardships that you and I face can never outpace the abundance of comfort that the Lord can provide.
- The apostle stands up in their midst during the storm, and he is encouraging them. Why is that? It's because he was encouraged.
- God comforts the apostle by others in what they do.
- And that's how God does this. He changes our focus.
- The sustaining power of God. It didn't take a miracle. It took a changing of our focus.

2 The Sustaining Power of God Is Making Us Adequate

Mark 16:15–18; Ephesians 4:11–12

- Our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant.
- This is what the sustaining power of God does. It makes us sufficient, it prepares us.
- And in God's sustaining power, he provides what we need for the work that he has created us to do in Christ Jesus.
- In other words, God was preparing them to confirm that what they were teaching was the truth.
- For the equipping of the saints for the work of service. That's the sustaining power of God. Making us adequate to do the work.
- We can do the work of God. We just got to trust him.

3 The Sufficient Grace He Has Provided

Titus 2:11–14; 1 Corinthians 2:1–5

- My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.
- The sustaining power of God is in reference to the sufficient grace that He has provided.
- It is fit, it is fully capable, it provides salvation, it gives instructions in righteousness.

- For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and godly in the present age.
- So that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.
- We should rely on the power of God in the power of his word. It is the sustaining power.

4 The Sustaining Power Expressed in the Giving

- This is what this lesson is about to help us to see that when we're working together with God, He's going to sustain us.
- The sustaining power is even expressed in the giving over in chapters eight and nine.
- According to their ability and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord.
- We're the sustaining power of God to comfort and help our brethren when they are in need.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **He did not give up. Neither should we. Why? Because of the sustaining power of God.**

MY NOTES