

## INTENTIONAL MEDITATION/APPLICATION FROM 2 COR. 12:7-10

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- A. Consider whether or not the trial is a result of **UNREPENTNANT DISOBEDIENCE** in your life and if this is God's loving discipline to correct you (1 Cor.11:27-34; James 5:13-18).
- B. Think about what you possess and have experienced by God's **GOOD GRACE**.
1. **INTELLIGENCE**
  2. Good speaking/preaching abilities
  3. Your writings – accepted and popular
  4. Your **MARRIAGE/FAMILY** – a model
  5. Your accomplishments/successes – possibly well known or you think it's your own doing and can begin to take credit (by your design, your ability or for your glory)
  6. Your other abilities
  7. Your position/status
  8. Etc.
- C. Ask yourself, “Was or is there a danger of you becoming **PROUD?**”
1. Of your intelligence
  2. Of your abilities
  3. Of your accomplishments/successes
  4. Of your position
  5. Of your writings
  6. Of your marriage & family
  7. Of your church
  8. Etc.
- D. Consider what you are **PRESENTLY** going through that's very difficult (full of pain) for you.
- E. Examine how you might be **ECLIPSING** God's glory by your:
1. Unrighteous attitude?
    - a. Complaining & murmuring
    - b. Moody (silent murder and self-pity)
    - c. Anger
    - d. Critical
    - e. Temporal thinking
    - f. Etc.
  2. Unrighteous Actions?
    - a. Withdrawal
    - b. Refusing to speak publicly or witness for the Lord
    - c. Occupy conversations with others about yourself

- d. Miss or refuse to take the opportunities to edify and comfort others
  - e. Miss or refuse to take the opportunities to admonish others in love
  - f. Etc.
- F. Evaluate what you are **PRAYING** for yourself and asking others to pray for.
- 1. Deliverance if it will best manifest God's glory in my life
  - 2. Dependence if that will best manifest God's glory in my life
    - This will take praying without ceasing
- G. Determine how this ongoing trial could make you more like **JESUS** (Rom 8:28-29; 2 Cor.3:18). What Fruit of the Spirit might need some attention in your life that this trial could help you grow in?
- H. Evaluate if your mind tends to be set on the **TEMPORAL** or eternal.
- 1. Mt.6:33
  - 2. Col.3:1-3
  - 3. 1 Pt.1:13
  - 4. Rom 8:18
  - 5. 2 Cor 4:16-18
- I. Discover what specific **PROMISES** you can meditate on at this time, to strengthen your hope.
- 1. Christ's Return – 1 Pt 1:13
  - 2. This trial is never designed above my capability when coupled with God's grace – 1 Cor.10:13.
  - 3. All things are working together for my good and His Glory - Rom 8:28-29.
  - 4. Momentary affliction is to be compared with eternity and falls short - Rom 8:18-39; 2 Cor 4:16-18.
- J. Ask yourself, "In the midst of my suffering, how can I **ENCOURAGE** others – reach out to them in their need?" (John 17:1-26; Phil 1:12-26)
- K. **REHEARSE** the truth of these concluding statements gleaned from verse 10:
- 1. When I am weak and remain weak,
  - 2. Then I am strong, as I depend on Christ's strengthening, all sufficient grace
  - 3. Therefore I will boast in my weakness (count it all joy), because I understand the goodness and faithfulness of God and will experience the power of Christ, and will reflect Him in my life.