

Hello! This is Dorothy -

In **1 Corinthians chapter 15, verse 10**, we read —

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but - the Apostle Paul says - I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

11 Therefore, whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed.

Do you notice, he **labored more abundantly** than anybody? But, he said, “I am not doing this work; it is the One who lives in me by His resurrection power, our Lord Jesus Christ.” If we could only see that the Lord purchased us to be a vessel that it might be His abundant life. He is doing it - more than anybody. It does not make sense what an available Christian accomplishes. Sometimes you have a whole army of workers for God and always there is something hindering something really happening, but if you have even one life available to Jesus, the explanation is that it is to be done in the Spirit by our resurrected Lord and, therefore, no man can take praise.

“But,” you say, “what is **the grace of God?**” In **Ephesians 2**, we read

8 For by grace are ye saved . . . Why are we saved by grace?

7 That in the ages to come he - Jesus - might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness towards us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that . . . -dear friend, who goes to church and does a lot of nice things, notice this: - . . . **not of yourselves:** - *we are not saved of/by ourselves* - . . . **it is the gift of God.** This gift of grace is His expression of life made available through the believer. How does it work in my life? First of all, I am not to try to copy Him. People say, “Oh, try to be like Jesus!” Have you ever tried that? You might keep it up for an hour, but after that you are bursting at the seams; you can hardly control all that is going on inside! No, we are not copying Him. But as a new creation, we are the expression of Christ as He, through me, carries the burden and the love for His Church worldwide. It is His love for the lost, that they might become part of His body, the Church, that is pulsating in my heart.

Who was it that **labored more abundantly than they all?** “Oh, “you might say, “it was the Apostle Paul.” Well, it was the Apostle Paul, but what was he saying? God is not looking for strong people to accomplish His tasks. Oh, you feel, “If I have the right figure and I look the right person as I stand in public, that is really going to let people know that I am a disciplined person. They are going to want to see who I am and what I present.” No! No! No! It is not strong people.

The Christian soon learns that in our own strength - that is, in our flesh - we fail! We fail a thousand times! We mess up what God is trying to do through us. But in the sufficiency and strength in Christ, then He can accomplish all He has planned — planned before the foundation of the world to do through me. It is all, all , all by His amazing grace!

Trying to rally and produce the work of our Christian organization, will always result in confusion, weariness, backbiting and problems. However, if we count on the fact that His strength is only made perfect through our weakness, then our dependency upon Him will bring forth results that cannot be explained by our ability. I am amazed over and over again. The thing you might have an ability in, God does not trust you to use. He does something totally different, so we are not depending on our ability. Yes, Jesus Christ, the supernatural Son of God, is the only One that ever has lived, and Whoever still does live, a supernatural life. He does this through an available Christian. Christ is our very life.

I am going to read four of the most amazing verses in my life. I love them. They are in **Colossians chapter 3**. Oh, that we could spend a week on just this! For it says —

1 If then you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, thus sharing his resurrection from the dead], aim at and seek the [rich,

eternal treasures] that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

2 And set your minds and keep them set on what is above (the higher things), not on the things that are on the earth.

3 For [as far as the world is concerned] you - *and I* - have died, and your [new, real] life is hidden with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in [the splendor of His] glory.

It is all Jesus; it is all His life; it is all His resurrection. As a born-again believer, will you say, *Lord, no longer I. I am going to take that. I am going to see it is not me, it is not my ability. It is Christ's anointing life living through me. I want to be available for this.* Let Him know today. And let us know what God is doing in your life.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.