

**“PUT GOD’S GRACE TO GOOD  
USE”**

**2 Corinthians 6:1-10**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Paul has been addressing what authentic ministry is. We are workers together with God! Amazingly enough, we have been given the ministry of reconciliation! It is the call for each of us. We are beneficiaries of the great exchange. Jesus received what He didn’t deserve – sin. We have been awarded what we don’t deserve – His righteousness and salvation!

## **GRACE IS NOT TO BE ABUSED**

Ministering in the grace of God, Paul was accused of being too lenient on people. It is possible to abuse grace, but that’s not the best response of those who are born again. It’s carnal. In grace we should be as far away from sin as possible! We should consecrate our lives for His service since we are His ambassadors.

## **NOW IS THE TIME!**

Paul quotes **Isaiah 49:8** and stresses the urgency of this message. Now is the time! Today is the day! Get out the word! Paul was a chosen vessel refined in the fire of affliction, **cf. Isaiah 48:10**. In the many trials of the Christian we certainly need the full armor of God! (See **Ephesians 6**). Believers were and are slandered as deceivers even when true. Many believers were unknown, but well known to God. Some were poor so others could be rich!

## **FALSE TEACHERS**

Paul’s battle was against the false teachers! Even now there are many false teachers and prophets under the influence of Satan, **cf. Jeremiah 23:16, 1 Timothy 4:1, 1 Kings 22**. John says that we should test the spirits, **1 John 4:1**. Satan is continually trying to distort and keep people from the truth!

### Why do false teachers do it?

1) Fame – **Acts 20:29, 30**. (Some draw others after themselves, to have their own following, and give people their own ideas.)

2) Money or Power - **1 Peter 5:2, 3**. (Don’t serve for dishonest gain, but be an example to others.)

## **MINISTRY STYLES**

There are many styles of ministry. There is not just one way. Remember, Elijah was told he was not the only one. Paul experienced many different situations during his ministry. He learned how to be content in whatever setting he was called to... poor or rich, hungry or full, whatever it may be... **“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”** **Philippians 4:13 NKJV**. Relying on Jesus in any condition is the key!

## **CONSIDER**

Don’t waste the grace of God, use it! We have important work to do. If you have been running away from the Lord, *today* is the day to get right! *Now is the time to be part of the ministry of reconciliation!*

## **PRAY.....**

- \* That the Lord would pour out His Spirit on our Pastors Conference.
- \* That our Savior would work mightily in Calvary Chapel Academy and the School of Ministry this year.
- \* That our political leaders would allow us to live quiet and peaceable lives so we may serve Him! (1 Tim. 2:1-4).