

## **God is Able**

### **2Corinthians 9:8**

**2 Cor 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;**

Do you own this truth? God is sufficient? He is able? For any trial life throws your way. Drugs won't do it-**but** God is able, alcohol won't-**but** God is able, pills for stress won't help-**but** God is able, vacation won't do it-**but** God is able, new or other relationship won't do it-**but** God is able, money won't fix it-**but** God is able

When we come to the end of ourselves we come to the beginning of God & discover that *He is able*. **Why** do we doubt that truth? Maybe because we still think we can do it. *We've always been self-reliant, got ourselves out of jams, pulled self up by boot straps.* We don't want to let go! *Illus 'let go'*

David doubted that *God is able* & went to the king of Gath—**1 Sam 21:12**--so scared he slobbered & scribbled. Yet as youngster went out against a giant. David should have known better, from a youth he had the stars to declare *God is able*. **Ps 147:4,5 He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them. Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.**

For thousands of years Astronomers were meticulously involved in the study & counting of the stars & constellations. Before the invention of the telescope in the 17<sup>th</sup> C. the number of stars were officially recorded, although scientist differed in their calculations. Ptolemy gave the number a 1,006, Brahe 777 and Kepler 1,005. Today scientist say there are well over 100 billion stars in our galaxy w/ billions of other galaxies like our own. Most astronomers now agree that it is humanly impossible to count all the stars. God knew that before they started counting. **Jer 33:22 'the host of heaven cannot be counted...'** Although man can't number all the stars God knows them all by name as David declares **Ps 147:4 He calls all stars by name**--that's a big vocabulary. **Is 40:2 '...not one of them is missing.'** The stars are a testament that *God is able*.

Skeptics mocked the bible when it declared....

**Ps 19:1-6 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their utterances to the end of the world. In them He has placed a tent for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber; it rejoices as a strong man to run his course. Its rising is from one end of the heavens, and its circuit to the other end of them; and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

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Accused the bible of perpetuating the ancient myth that the sun revolves around the earth. Today leading astronomers believe the sun, along w/ the entire solar system actually does move thru space at the incredible speed of 600,000 m/h in such a gigantic orbit that it would require over 2 million C to complete it's course.

**Imagine** the thrust it must have had to start in motion the solar system—It is believed our galaxy is moving w/ respect to other galaxies. In other words the suns circuit is from one end of the heavens to the other—as the bible indicates.

*God is able* to order the heaven as vast & inconceivable as they are but *He is also able* to organize & systematize the most minute elements as well.

Research into the structure & working of genes & DNA tells of Gods attention to the smallest of detail. At the moment of conception a fertilized human egg is about the size of a pinhead. Yet it contains information equivalent to about six billion 'chemical letters.' This amounts to enough information to fill 1000 books, 500 pages thick w/ print so small you would need a microscope to read it. If all the chemical letters in the human body were printed in books, it is estimated they would fill the Grand Canyon fifty times. This huge amount of information is stored in our bodies' cells in DNA molecules so small they are seen only w/ the most powerful microscope.

So *God is able* to track & name the billions of galaxies & countless stars in the **cosmos** as well as encode the billions of bites of information in your DNA. Do you think there is *anything too difficult for the Lord?* God makes **no** mistakes & He finishes everything He starts. **No** unfinished landscapes, **no** unfinished people-*God is able*. W/ God there's no degree of difficulty-no such thing as *oops*

Not like 10 worst things to hear at the tattoo parlor—10. 'Eagle? I thought you said Beagle' 8. 'There are two o's in Bob, right?' 5. Gosh, I hate it when I get the hiccups.' 3. 'I'll bet you can't tell I've never done this before.' #1 worst thing to hear at the tattoo parlor is 'Oops!'

You'll never hear God say 'Oops' it is not in His vocabulary--*God is able*.

***1 Sam 30:6 Moreover David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all the people were embittered, each one because of his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.***

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David discovered that in the worst of times & circumstances *God is able--* Even thru our mistakes & lack of faith He can turn things around & use them to teach us that *He is able*—Joshua 9:14-20;27 God over ruled his carelessness & prayerlessness and turned curses into blessings.

Wood for fires of altar & water for cleansing rituals. The Gibeonites in our life used by God to kindle fires of prayer & wash us from self deception.

Have you come to the end of yourself? *God is able!*

Is your situation desperate, no way out? *God is able!*

Have you exhausted all resources & schemes to fix the mess you're in? *God is able*

He's been waiting for you to come to the end of yourself that you might come to the beginning of God--where you give up to give in, you let go to let God---willing to turn it all over to Him. *He is able.*

There are only two paths to walk--God's way where we find rest & peace--where we come to realization *He is able* **or** the stubborn way, beating your head against wall....till bruised & bloody...w/o peace, w/o rest. Comes down to your choice, *many are called few are chosen*...are you chosen?

***Jer 6:16 Thus says the LORD, "Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; and you shall find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it '***

***Matt 11:29-30 "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. "For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."***

For the man David, he discovered *God is able*. For Joshua, in spite of all his mistakes found that *God is able*. Another man discovered God is able thru tragedy and tears. For Horatio Spafford thru tragedy and tears came to realize God is able. How about you?

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Horatio Spafford was a devoted Christian man who had always believed that **God is able to make all grace abound to him**. His faith was about to be greatly tested. He was married to a lovely Christian woman & had four beautiful daughters. It was 1873 in Chicago when Horatio bid farewell to his family as they boarded a vessel sailing across the Atlantic to visit relatives in Europe. Horatio's work as a lawyer kept him back but he planned on joining them w/in two weeks. Horatio was a personal friend of DL Moody who was holding evangelistic meetings in Edinburgh at the time & Horatio enjoyed helping out in these campaigns. So he was doubly anxious to join his family. A few days after Horatio's family had set sail, the ship collided w/ another steamship in the mid-Atlantic & sank almost immediately. Before it did Mrs. Spafford prayed w/ the children & committed them to the mercy of the Lord. In the chaos she was separated from the children & never saw them again. A lifeboat spotted Mrs Spafford & she was rescued. When she arrived in England w/ the rest of the survivors she telegraphed a brief message to her husband, it read '**SAVED ALONE**'. The words struck Horatio like a thunderbolt. He sunk into deep sorrow. He left for England immediately to comfort his grieving wife. As Horatio sailed over the same stretch of ocean that took his children to a watery grave only days earlier, a strange awe gripped his soul; a sense of wonder & majesty & the greatness of God & His sovereignty overwhelmed Horatio. Words began flooding his mind. He grabbed paper & pen and wrote down what later would become a source of strength, comfort & peace to others. When Horatio reached London DL Moody came down to give what help he could. He found his friends surprisingly strong in faith & able to say thru tears, '*It is well; the will of God is done.*' Four years later Horatio Spafford dipped his pen in the ink of his tears and composed the famous hymn dedicated to the memory of his four daughters—**It is Well** (*The words God spoke to his heart aboard the ship just days after the tragedy*) *When peace like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrow like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well w/ my soul...Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blessed assurance control, That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul. My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole, Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, Even so, It is well with my soul.*

For Horatio Spafford thru tragedy & tears came to realization that **God is able**. How about you?