

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 11, 2009

“Paul’s Sufficiency as a Minister of the New Covenant”
2 Corinthians 3:4-6

What do we learn about ministerial sufficiency from the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 3:4-6?

We learn that those who are ministering the gospel of Christ and the truths of Christ should feel sufficient for these things (2 Corinthians 3:4).

We learn that those who are ministering the gospel of Christ and the truths of Christ should feel insufficient in and of themselves to minister these things (2 Corinthians 3:5).

If we want not only to feel sufficient but also to be sufficient, it begins with us recognizing our insufficiency (Exodus 4:10-17; Judges 6:15; Isaiah 6:5).

We learn that those who are ministering the gospel of Christ and the truths of Christ need to be God-sufficient (2 Corinthians 3:5b-6).

The Abrahamic covenant (Genesis 17:7; 18:10-19) and the Davidic covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-16; 23:5) contain God’s promises to Israel concerning salvation and its accompanying blessings.

In the old covenant, or in other words, in the Mosaic covenant God, in effect, said that the blessings of the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants were for the righteous (Exodus 24:7-8).

The new covenant is the means by which people are saved and are able to enter into the blessings of the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants (Jeremiah 31:31-33).

The new covenant was given to provide a basis of salvation that had nothing to do with us, but rather had everything to do with God and what He was prepared to do on our behalf (Jeremiah 31:31-33).

When Christ gave up His life and shed His blood on the cross of Calvary, He ratified the new covenant promised to the nation of Israel in Jeremiah 31:31-33 (1 Corinthians 11:25-26).

The blessedness of the new covenant, as well as all other promised blessings related to salvation, can only be received through faith in Christ (Acts 4:12).

We become servants or ministers of the new covenant when we, by faith, embrace Christ and in obedience to Christ seek to spread His gospel.

May God give us the grace to trust Him for His sufficiency as we in our weakness, seek to be faithful ministers of the new covenant and Christ's gospel.