



**As Workers together with God, let's plead about what?*

**2 Corinthians 6:1 We then, as workers together with Him, also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain.*

2 For He says:

"In an acceptable time I have heard you,

And in the day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

V:1-2 Grace for sinners but not for sin.

There is a day for salvation. We are approaching a time in history when inviting Jesus into your life is unacceptable. The anti-God spirit is moving upon the world.

Now is the perfect time. While the Holy Spirit is speaking to your heart, accept His voice.

**Offended Christians like to blame, but is this the correct response?*

**2 Corinthians 6:3 We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. 4 But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, 5 in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; 6 by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, 7 by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, 8 by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.*

V:3 The Ministry of the Gospel must be protected from the curse of an offended spirit.

***Christians offending each other is a severe problem.**

***Matthew 24:9** "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.

***Matthew 24:10** **And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.**

V:4-10 The relational levels of being a servant of Jesus. (An overwhelming list that only the Holy Spirit can help us.)

Our mistakes are our lessons.

Our sorrows are our credentials.

Our offenses are the bait that Satan uses.

***Matthew 24:11** Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

V:4-5 The typical battles believers face include patience in tribulations and distress during captivity. Mayhem in the Christian workforce will bring sleeplessness and fasting.

***The offended Christian changes** from a vulnerable giver to a protector of their heart. ~John Bevere

V:6-7 The standard of purity is the kindness in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 2:4)

Pure and unadulterated truth is the standard that is being eroded.

Truth is offensive, especially to the religious.

Good Christians are the most significant critics of others. The critical spirit attaches to the offended heart.

V:8-10 Not being offended or prideful by the good or bad times of honor/dishonor, evil/good reports. The times of being known/unknown, dealing with life or death, and having nothing/everything to times of joy or sorrow.

***Proverbs 18:19** A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, and contentions are like the bars of a castle.

***The Restriction to Reconciliation is not Unity but Holiness.**

**2 Corinthians 6:11 O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open. 12 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. 13 Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open.*

14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

17 Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you."

18 "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty."

V:11-12 Our affections (preferences) may keep us from unity.

What moves your heart will either bless or curse you spiritually.

V:13-16 Using the spirit of a godly father is wisdom.

When speaking to people who are offended, don't talk down to them. Good fathers start by telling us what we are doing well.

V:17-18 The goal is holy attitudes and a holy life.

The word attitude can also be translated as "Spirit." Let this attitude that is in Christ Jesus be in you also.