



Is God enough
For you?

Or do you grumble?

Is God enough for you?

If the Lord is enough for me, He has first place in my heart. If He is first, He will uphold me with true knowledge whenever the world and people disappoint. *'Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'*

Isaiah 41:10

When the Lord is enough He will be first, and the Lord will satisfy my heart with His intimate love when I am isolated in the world. *"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."*

John 15:10

When God is enough for us we will be aware that because of the stain of sin no man or woman can love us the way we need; the way God loves us. We need: *'To know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.'*

Eph 3:19

When the Lord is enough we can be still and know He is God, even when the saints fail to reflect His life. Since all mankind has been corrupted by self interest to some degree or other, there will be times when even those who claim to love us will be unloving. *'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.'* Rom 3:23

When the Lord is enough and first in my heart the Lord will give light and guidance to sustain me in righteousness when I walk in the darkness of the world. *"I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."* John 8:12

When the Lord is enough for me and first in my thoughts, He will satisfy my needs even when I live in poverty by filling me with the comfort of His powerful presence. This truth doesn't impact on the quality of our lives unless we are numbered amongst the poor. Therefore, *"Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."* Matt 6:33

When the Lord is enough to satisfy me, having first place, the Lord will provide me with passion

and desire to work for His kingdom. *"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances."*

Ezek 36:27

When the Lord is enough for me, I will want to do everything He asks of me. *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

Matt 28:19-20

When the Lord is enough, I will want to persevere in service to the Lord, and He will let me know my efforts are not a waste of time. *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.*

1 Cor 15:58

When the Lord is enough I will go anywhere the word of God needs to be heard. *"As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world."*

John 17:18

When the Lord is first, the Lord will abide in me so I will never be alone or feel insignificant. *“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.”* John 14:23

When the Lord is first, the Father and the Son will fortify me with their love. *“I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”* John 17:26

When the Lord has first place in my heart, I will see everything that comes my way as an opportunity to grow in righteousness through His loving providence. Happy is he who seeks to glorify God and enjoy Him forever, regardless of how God's providence works out in his life.

When God is enough we will know that He cannot be a part time God. We cannot share what belongs to God in the way of devotion and adoration with another person or thing, and still say we are faithful to Him.

When God is enough, no lover, wife, husband, or friend can be allowed to take first place in my

heart. No business, or hobby, or interest with the world can be allowed to lessen my devotion to living in the presence of God almighty. Nothing made in the heavens or the world can be allowed to interfere with my service to our God who created all things.

When God is enough for us we will be passionate about growing up into responsible adult children of the most High God, so that we can serve Him and carry out His plan for all things to be subject to Him.

Heb 2:8

When God is enough for us we will understand that being born again by God's Spirit is not the end game, it is the beginning of life with God without end.

When God is enough for us we will be able to stand in His light while we observe the darkness of the world without fear or apprehension.

When God is enough for us we will be able to love our enemies; we will be able to choose not to react to the darkness, but instead show the world the light of life in Jesus Christ.

When God is not enough

When God is not enough to satisfy our needs we can have no real peace. The sure sign that we have domesticated God and replaced Him with an idol of our own making is a lack of peace and plenty of grumbling. Like the children of Israel, our grumbling replaces gratefulness.

When God is not enough we rely on our own understanding, being quick to deceive ourselves with the idea that we are actually serving God.

When God is not enough we take matters into our own hands and indulge ourselves in the world wide addiction to things or people in the world, which is really idolatry, because we have placed something or someone before God.

When God is not enough we will be blind to the consequence of Adams sin, that the world has no real understanding of the righteousness of God so as to be able to live as God requires.

When God is not enough we will forget we have history to inform us about the grumbling of God's people. People who God almighty delivered from

slavery in Egypt, to have them grumble when their faith was put to the test in the wilderness where they paid a heavy price for grumbling. We tut tut at their shallowness, as if we are much more resilient than they. However we repeat the history of grumbling over even smaller things.

With far less provocation we are so quick to grumble about that person or this person because they have shown us less than the required respect that we think we deserve.

Under far less testing we are often not happy with God's providence as He places us where we are best suited for the working out of our own holiness, along with those with whom He has placed us according to His wisdom.

We are not only guilty of tut tutting about people, we presume to tut tut to God. When we grumble we are expressing our disapproval and annoyance about what God is doing in our lives.

All grumbling is against God

All grumbling is our way of saying God has got it wrong. All our grumbling indicates we have

taken His place and made Him our servant. All grumbling is just blind self centeredness, only having concern for earthly things while forgetting our heavenly calling.

And don't we do a lot of grumbling! Hardly a day goes past without some ordinary thing of everyday occurrence becoming a thorn in our sides, for which we pray for release from that which God has ordained for our good.

We would claim to understand how God works for the good of His people and His glory by means of His wise providence, but when it comes to accepting how God is working in us to will and to work for our good, we mostly grumble even when He tells us not to grumble. Phil 2:13-14

We have rocks for brains if we think we know better than God. We read the scriptures about the training and discipline of God's children. *'All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.'* (Heb 12:11) and we hardly ever think that it applies to us when our husband or

wife, or neighbour, or even our enemy is the instrument of His training in righteousness for our good.

We are mostly blind to the truth that the difficult people and circumstances God brings into our lives are there to purge us from grumbling and complaining, by humbling us into responding as faithful sons would to a Father we loves them more than life. We are blind to the fact the God has given us all we require of godliness so we can live as His holy children. 2 Pet 1:2-4

When tempted to grumble we need to remember that every negative and difficult situation is a test to prove how much we trust God by being faithful and putting on the life of Christ, (Rom 13:14) which He has made our own through repentance and rebirth by the Spirit to the glory of God.

Instead of humble obedience and trust, we mostly feel justified in our grumbling instead of seeing it as that which remains of the flesh in us which is our responsibility to put to death. Col 3:5

We want God to give us great wisdom and knowledge concerning the kingdom of God, and

yet we continually fail to see the closed door to greater wisdom is the ordinary cause of our grumbling, our faithlessness. *'From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.'* (Luke 12:48) And we have all received more than enough to live godly lives.

1 Pet 1:16

We grumble about not having riches. *'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.'* (2 Cor 8:9) Now we need to see that the riches are not earthly, or concerned with creaturely comfort. The riches Jesus left behind are heavenly, both for the Lord and for us. We grumble as if this life is to be heaven on earth, rather than the place of our perfecting for heaven to come.

Our grumbling may be audible or silent, the test is, are we submissive in the hands of God to do His will in all things? Do we desire to please God as His obedient servant, or do we want to be left alone to do our own thing?

We can either grumble and sell our inheritance to take up a bowl of porridge with Esaw, (Gen 25) or we can trust in God and lean not on our understanding by acknowledging Him and His will (Prov 3:4-5) and receive a crown in heaven.

1 Cor 9:24-25

All grumbling is a failure to understand that the world and all in the world has, is to varying degrees fallen from the righteousness of God, especially people, even the redeemed people of God.

We may ask God to give us a greater opportunity to serve Him, and all the while we fail to see the little things that hold us back from graduation, because we haven't past the test of kindergarten.

Although passing through kinder doesn't mean we won't revisit for some needed revision.

All grumbling is a failure to see that God is using the chaos in the world caused by sin, to work out His righteousness in us for His glory and our holiness. God allows the chaos for the purpose of judgement of the world and for the training of His chosen people in righteousness.

When we grumble we are telling God He has to do better than that, we are not happy with the way things are in the world for which He is responsible.

Grumbling is a case of putting ourselves first before God? This is our way of demanding His glory? In grumbling we are actually idolising ourselves. As one man said, "we turn our back on God and cast a shadow on earth, and worship it."

All grumbling shows ignorance of God

In the light of all God has done and given to us, grumbling is actually infantile behaviour born out of ignorance.

Grumbling about anything reveals the sneaky way we have deceived ourselves while we domesticate God so He is no longer God but our servant to please us by doing what we desire.

Our grumbling is everywhere; we grumble about anything we feel is not perfect enough for us to please us in all things. We grumble about the national government, we also grumble about local governments, we grumble about our fathers and

mothers, and our husbands and wives. We grumble about the local community. We grumble about the weather. We grumble about the food we eat. We grumble about those we call friends. We grumble about our children. We grumble about the church leaders God has given us to equip us for His service and to teach us not to grumble.

Because we are made and didn't create ourselves, we suffer from the corruption caused by sin; and while Jesus Christ has delivered us from the power of sin to control our lives, we are responsible for putting His power into effect by walking by the Spirit of God and not grumbling.

There is no end to our grumbling, so there is no end to our displeasure with God. The way to learn to stop grumbling is to be thankful to God and trust in Him whatever comes across our path. Grumbling is our way of walking in darkness. Jesus said if we believe in Him we will not walk in darkness.

John 8:12

When God is enough we will not grumble

How quickly do we forget that with Christ we are perfected through suffering, and because the

purging of the flesh requires sacrifice, therefore we must willingly suffer in order to be perfected in Christ. Rom 12:1-2

Yes it is written that God won't share His glory with another, that is, another put in His place, like the idols of disobedient Israel. But He will share His glory with His faithful children. *“The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one.”*

John 17:22

A refusal to grumble opens the way for the world to see the glory of God working in us to His glory. Matt 5:16

A refusal to grumble means we will be the light of the world. Matt 5:14

A refusal to grumble will mean the way is open for mercy and forgiveness. Matt 5:7

A refusal to grumble means we have the ability to serve rather than being served. Matt 20:28

A refusal to grumble means we can love others as Christ has loved us. John 13:34-35

A refusal to grumble means we have decided God's will be done because we are done with our will to please ourselves. Matt 3:2

A refusal to grumble simply means we trust in God, all the time, through the good times and the times of our testing. 1 Thess 5:4-9

'But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.' Rom 8:37-39

A refusal to grumble will mean we can love our enemies because we can see even though they are blind to God; they are being used as agents of God for our good. Matt 5:43-48

A refusal to grumble will mean the things that our Father in heaven is concerned with will become our concern. His passion to save people from sin and death will be our desire.

His salvation plan using His providence in the world of darkness will be our delight to share with the family of God in the church.

Matt 28:19-20

A refusal to grumble has God in control

Let the Lord be glad in His works; He looks at the earth, and it trembles; He touches the mountains, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the Lord.

Psalm 104:31-34

In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways;

Acts 14:16

A refusal to grumble accepts God's plan

Trust in the Lord with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

Prov 3:5-6

We have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.

Eph 1:11

There was never a plan that our life in Christ would be comfortable and safe from the consequences of the sin of man.

Therefore it is the Father's pleasure that we follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

'For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.' 1 Pet 2:21

A refusal to grumble will hope in Christ

We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers; constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father.

1 Thess 1:2-3

God will help a grumbling heart

God has promised us His Spirit so that we can know the truth of God and worship His only. (Acts 1:8) The power of God to witness to Christ is the power of God to live a holy life of gratitude without grumbling.

But we must want the Spirit to have control, or we will be alone and powerless.

'But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.'

Gal 5:16-17

Walking by the Spirit is absolutely necessary while we live on earth so *'that you may not do the things that you please'* because the memories of the world and its attraction turn us away from God is still imbedded in our minds. So we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds, (Rom12:2) and this is done by obedience to the Spirit of God who teaches us about righteousness.

One of the primary signs we are looking to the world or others rather than God is the little tut tutting of our grumbling. We may think we are grumbling about some deficiency in the world or others, but we are grumbling about the way God is working out His salvation of the world, including us.

When we begin to accept that the way to follow Christ is the way of the cross of suffering, then we can put our efforts into obeying God so that we please Him who has caused us to be born again so that we can be presented to God, perfect and complete as children of the Most High God.

James 1:4

When God is good enough for us we can be sure He will uphold us in our suffering for His wisdom sake and for His glory. When God is enough we can be at peace even when our world is against us. Therefore if we are wise we can never be comfortable according to earthly things.

When God is enough for us, we will know the power of His peace even if we are being led to be burnt at the stake. *“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”* (Acts 14:22) *‘You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin.’* Heb 12:4

When God is enough we can know the reality of Christ’ words: *Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it*

be fearful. (John 14:27) His peace doesn't depend on being safe and comfortable.

When God is enough we can believe His promise.
“The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You.” Trust in the Lord forever, For in God the Lord, we have an everlasting Rock.
Isaiah 26:3-4

By God's grace I am learning these things

By the grace of God's providence, my past chaos and my present contentment are in accordance with God's work for His glory and my salvation, so that I may serve Him with unspeakable joy.

By God's providence my past with all its painful dramas is used as part of God's plan to bring me to the place that by God's will my present life is also His plan for me to live as His servant in Christ, having His vision to fulfil in all I do according to His wonderful providence.

By God's providence I am where I am today, separated from the world to serve Him. Committed to being a faithful husband in looking

after the wife He has given, having the heartfelt desire to enjoy greater fellowship with Christ.

By His grace I have the time to listen and receive understanding concerning His word, first for my own growth, and also so I can write books to share with others. Praise God. *'For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.'*

Phil 2:13

Don't grumble and be happy with God

'Do all things without grumbling or disputing.'

Phil 2:14

When we are happy with God we can rejoice always, pray meaningful without ceasing while giving thanks in all things.

1 Thess 5:16-18

Our grumbling shows we have a lot to learn about humility, forgiveness, mercy and love. Grumble shows we have a lot to learn about the ways of our Holy God. Grumbling gives us heart disease; it hardens our arteries and limits the flow of blood that keeps us alive. The quickest way to make spiritual progress is to forsake grumbling, thus unblocking the ears so we can hear God, opening

our eyes so we can see His ways, and renewing the heart so that God can be enough for us, and we can be enough for Him.

Thank God for His loving testing us by using that which is not perfect in a fallen world. Thank God that He will even use us in our imperfections to help others become more perfect; not that we should be more imperfect to hasten their growth or ours, because all imperfections are harmful and cause pain and suffering. Thank God who mercifully turns the causes for all our grumbling around so they are used to perfect us in the image of Christ.

Rom 8:28-29

Pray that the God of all hope who is enough for everyone, will remove the heart of grumbling from everyone, (so we thank God for more painful testing) to give us a heart like Christ's heart, so that we can be complete and more useful in the kingdom of God.

'Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.'

Eph 3:20-21

Living Water Resources

Come to the river

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