

<sup>7</sup>BECAUSE OF THE SURPASSING GREATNESS OF THE REVELATIONS, FOR THIS REASON, TO KEEP ME FROM EXALTING MYSELF, THERE WAS GIVEN ME A THORN IN THE FLESH, A MESSENGER OF SATAN TO TORMENT ME—TO KEEP ME FROM EXALTING MYSELF!

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7

<sup>8</sup>CONCERNING THIS I IMPLORED THE LORD THREE  
TIMES THAT IT MIGHT LEAVE ME.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:8

<sup>9</sup>AND HE HAS SAID TO ME,“MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT  
FOR YOU, FOR POWER IS PERFECTED IN WEAKNESS.”  
MOST GLADLY, THEREFORE, I WILL RATHER BOAST  
ABOUT MY WEAKNESSES, SO THAT THE POWER OF  
CHRIST MAY DWELL IN ME.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

<sup>10</sup>THEREFORE I AM WELL CONTENT WITH  
WEAKNESSES, WITH INSULTS, WITH DISTRESSES,  
WITH PERSECUTIONS, WITH DIFFICULTIES, FOR  
CHRIST'S SAKE; FOR WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM  
STRONG.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:10

<sup>3</sup>THEREFORE I ALSO SAID, 'I WILL NOT DRIVE THEM OUT BEFORE YOU; BUT THEY WILL BECOME AS **THORNS IN YOUR SIDES** AND THEIR GODS WILL BE A SNARE TO YOU.'

JUDGES 2:3

<sup>55</sup>BUT IF YOU DO NOT DRIVE OUT THE INHABITANTS  
OF THE LAND FROM BEFORE YOU, THEN IT SHALL  
COME ABOUT THAT THOSE WHOM YOU LET REMAIN  
OF THEM WILL BECOME AS PRICKS IN YOUR EYES  
AND **AS THORNS IN YOUR SIDES**, AND THEY WILL  
TROUBLE YOU IN THE LAND IN WHICH YOU LIVE.

NUMBERS 33:55

<sup>24</sup>AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE FOR THE HOUSE OF  
ISRAEL A PRICKLING BRIER OR A **PAINFUL THORN**  
**FROM ANY ROUND ABOUT THEM WHO SCORNED THEM;**  
THEN THEY WILL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD GOD”

EZEKIEL 28:24

“IF WE ARE CONTENT TO BE WEAK, THEN WE WILL BE JOYFUL. WHEN WE SEE THAT CHRIST DOES NOT COMPEL US TO BE OR BECOME STRONG, OR TO PRETEND TO BE STRONG, THEN WE CAN BREATHE AGAIN. IT IS EXHAUSTING TO FEEL THE RELENTLESS REQUIREMENT OF PROJECTING STRENGTH.”

-JOHN HINDLEY