



Power *in* weakness

2 CORINTHIANS

"My spirit was not at rest..."

2 Corinthians 2:12-17

When I came to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord, **my spirit was not at rest** because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia. ...

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? ...

For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 2:12-17

When your spirit is not at rest:

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1. Do not be discouraged. You are not aimless and at a loss. Rather, realize that God is leading you in his triumphal procession!

Verse 14: But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in [triumphal procession](#), and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.

Maybe you can relate to Paul's circumstances. Realize Christ's triumphal procession when...

He is suffering
His leadership & character are questioned
He is personally attacked
Missing a great opportunity
Missing a friend/confidant
Timing and plans are thrown off

Verse 14: But thanks be to God, who in Christ [always leads us](#) in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.

Application:

1) It is Christ's triumphal procession, not yours or mine!

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2) But thanks be to God!

When your spirit is not at rest:

2. No matter what happens, you carry the aroma of Christ with you. And people will either be attracted to or repelled by Jesus because of it.

Verses 14-16: But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the **aroma of Christ to God** among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, **to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.** Who is sufficient for these things?

Questions for reflection:

1) Christian friends, if you are in a season where “my spirit is not at rest”, do you realize that you carry the aroma of Christ, and you will reflect Jesus in a way that will either attract or repel people?

2) Do people encounter you and think, “you smell like Jesus is King? Or do you smell like you are trying to be King?”

3) At work, home, in your marriage, in your parenting, in your friendships:

Do you smell like the gentleness of Jesus? The courage of Jesus? The patience of Jesus? The holiness of Jesus? The joy of Jesus?

When your spirit is not at rest:

3. Instead of taking God’s word lightly, you take his word to heart privately and publicly.

Verse 17: For we are not, like so many, **peddlers** of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

Application and Reflection:

1) How are you prone to peddle God's word in a way that is about "you" (personal gain)?

2) If you are in a season where your spirit is not at rest, you are still and always a representative of Jesus...

- This ought to convict and get us out of our spiritual myopia.

- While Paul is uniquely commissioned by God as an Apostle, Jesus commissions all of us too! (Matthew 28, the Great Commission to the church).

- Someone in your life needs to hear about Jesus, who is it?

As we wrap up...

Matthew 11:28-30: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."