

Finished Product

2-19-17

Romans 15:18 (ESV)

For I will not venture to speak of anything except what **Christ has accomplished** through me.

We are wrapping up the book of Romans. The Book of Romans is a book of Systematic Theology. Systematic Theology is by definition Systematic and should lead to a finished product. Therefore here at the close of the book of Romans, we want to focus on the finished product.

The finished product for a Christian is an intimate relationship with Christ and not a particular measurable achievement. **The “process” of developing this relationship is the “goal”.**

Here are a couple of quotes from *Oswald Chambers, “My Utmost for His Highest.”*

- **“God is not working toward a particular finish—His purpose is the process itself.”**
- **“It is the process, not the outcome, that is glorifying to God.”**

All Christians are firm in their salvation, however we continue to grow in Christ. The **finished product** is the **continuing process** of people being transformed through Christ by renewing their minds while #1) Being Empowered by the Holy Spirit and #2) Living by Violent Grace!

#1 Transformed person in the continuing process of being Empowered by the Holy Spirit!

Romans 15:18–19 (ESV)

This is why Paul said; “He would not speak about anything except what Christ accomplished through him ... by the power of the Spirit of God.

This is not what we accomplished for Christ. This is what Christ accomplished through us. Jesus did the work while we were the avenue. **Therefore the “process” of Christ working through us not the outcome** is glorifying to God.

#2 Transformed person in the continuing process of Living in Violent Grace! To reconcile two seemingly incompatible terms, grace and violent, look at how Paul closes out 2 Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 12:9a (ESV)

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Grace is sufficient and Grace is power made perfect in weakness. Grace is often interpreted, favor. However, the Biblical definition means Favor and Power. **When I read the Scriptures, I always “mentally translate” Grace to power.**

Biblical Definition from Strong’s Concordance: Grace – the “divine influence” upon the heart, and its “reflection in the life”.

Biblical Grace is “the desire and the power”!
Through Grace, “God provides the desire and the power” to overcome. I call this violent Grace!

Paul will boast in his weaknesses because when he is weak Grace, Power of Christ, rests on him.

2 Corinthians 12:9b (ESV)

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that **the power of Christ may “rest” upon me.**

Rest – to spread a tabernacle over (a tent).

So when we are weak, God spreads HIS tent of Grace, favor and power, over us. Therefore when we are weak we move in the power of God.

Violent Grace changes attitudes and imparts the desire and power of God and impacts behavior.

2 Corinthians 12:10 (ESV)

For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

It is so easy for Bible teachers and Christians in general to fall into teaching solely rules to adjust behavior. However, the finished product of Christianity is not rules to adjust behavior, but an intimate relationship, empowered by the Holy Spirit and Violent Grace, “which impacts behavior”.

How do we begin the process for the finished product?

**First we need to know the truth.
Second we need to ask.**

Where do we start?

2Cor.5:21 (NASB)

He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf,
so that we might become the righteousness of God in
Him.

**Prophetic Team
Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current
situation or impact the future.**