

## Thorn in Paul's Flesh

The thorn in Paul's flesh has been a topic that is a brain teaser to people that study the bible for ages. There are a lot of conjectures as to what was the thorn or stake.

1 Cor.2:3,4,; 2Cor.10:10; Gal.4:15. These scriptures make a person to think that it was a physical weakness, or his appearance had some flaws.

There is no way a person can prove( what the thorn was in his flesh.) we can guess and assume.

**(It doesn't affect anything in our relationship to Christ, or our salvation.)**

Paul suffered many things for the cause of Christ.

Paul rejoiced and took pleasure in his suffering, after Christ made it plain that he would not take it away. 2 Cor.12:8. He became strong because of his weakness.2 Cor.11:14 thru 31.

Some argue also that it was weak eyes of which we have scriptures that lead us to believe he had weak eyes.

Paul talks about taking pleasure in infirmities, distress, persecutions, reproaches and in necessities for Christ's sake.

It sounds like all of these could be the thorn.

It does give us proof that we can endure and grow stronger in hardships with Christ's help. 2 Cor.4:8-11.

Whether Paul was hard to look at ,or to listen to , we know he was a powerful person, and fell behind in nothing that any of

the other apostles were blest with. Nothing can be proved as the

exact thing being Paul's thorn in the flesh. We know it was in the flesh and not the spirit that was affected.

2 Cor 12:9, Paul said he had rather have the power of Christ upon him then to have the body infirmities to be taken away.

Paul said the infirmities is a messenger from Satan.

Infirmity,Gr.#769 , says it is the feebleness of the body, or mind. Paul's prayer was for God to remove the thorn, God said his strength was made prefect in weakness. Then Paul said he would glory in the infirmities, that the power of God would be rest up on him. Can we say he had some kind of infirmity of the body? It wouldn't be of his mind because Paul asserts that he received all

that the other Apostles received.

We don't believe the thorn is a person ,or demon as the messenger from satan. Paul had people everywhere he went that give him problems. It could possibly be different evil people, it could of been his eyes, it could be physical weakness ,or some sort of physical infirmities, distresses, persecutions, reproaches. There is several things that hinder him that came from people.  
If it was of a necessity for us to know, God would of have give us an answer.

This is as good of an argument as some of the other conjectures I have heard about Paul's thorn. When we were young they would ask what was Paul's thorn in the flesh, and the answer would be, his wife Grace. Well, it said, Paul prayed three times for God to take the thorn away and, God told him (Grace) was sufficient for him. Assuming Grace was his wife.( a smile face.)

Herb