

“Now is the Acceptable Time”

Scripture Reading: *2 Corinthians 6:1-13*

- A. “If you could ask God any one question and get a direct, immediate response...?”
- B. Towards the top of the list for most people would be concerns about the future.
- C. Be humbled by and weigh carefully the inspired truth of *2 Corinthians 6:2* this morning.

I. The Basis of our Text — Old Testament Roots

- A. *Isaiah 49:8; 55:6* — God’s messages to His Messiah and to Israel
- B. *Jeremiah 2:28* — the difference between God and the false gods of man.
- C. *Psalms 10:1; 20:1-2; 107:6,13,19,28* — pleas for God to bring about the “acceptable” time.

II. The Greater Context of *2 Corinthians* — God’s Saving Work at the “Acceptable” Time

- A. *2 Corinthians 1:10* — God had rescued Paul from danger and would continue to do so.
- B. *2 Corinthians 2:14-15* — the fragrance of the knowledge of Christ.
- C. *2 Corinthians 3* — the time of the fulfillment for God’s great purposes.
- D. *2 Corinthians 4:14-15* — the God who raised Jesus will bring us into His presence.
- E. *2 Corinthians 5* — our earthly home is just a temporary tent.

III. Working Together With God and Receiving His Grace (*2 Corinthians 6:1ff*)

- A. “Working together with Him...”
- B. “...we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain.”
 - 1. We can _____ or _____ God’s grace when it is offered.
 - 2. We can refuse to receive His grace for _____.
 - 3. We can negate the grace of God by _____.

IV. “Now!”

- A. There is a **blessing** in this message.
- B. There is an **opportunity** in this message.
- C. There is an **appeal** in this message.