

ON BEING TERRIFIC

Intro. Age of superlatives. World touts things as stupendous, ^{The greatest, the most.} colossal, gigantic. Ch same thing. Latest movie is the greatest. Most glorious program in history. Biggest thing attempted. Terrific methods, people. Chapel terrific, class, prayer mtg, roommate. God a little more choosy with His superlativ

He guided the NT writers to use a word that means to be more than enuf, have in abundance, perisseuo. Mt 5:20 righteousness ^{1.e. 2x in vs} more than Pharisees who had lots 2 Cor 8:2 (both words in text). Lk 15:17. enuf and to spare to translate this word, and we know howmuch he had by feast he spread. when prodigal returned. He had a terrific larder.

Imagine this word heightened with prep that means over and above. 2 Cor 7:4 overabounding in joy in tril Rom 5:20 classic. Superabounding grace. That's terrific

Imagine this word stretched even more. 2nd prep which intensifies it, uperekperisseuo. Quite beyond all measure, highest form of comparison imaginable. Whatever is described this way would really be something. Give yourself to these things and you'll be terrificXn.

I. POWER, Eph 3:20.

- A. Able to do way above what we ask of think. Not little above, not superabounding above, but super-super abounding. Not ask but think too.
- B. Able to do above all things. Note Grk construction. This we know and acknowledge. What we need is to experience His doing just what we ask. He can; do you know it from experience?

I know the power of God in experience--it's terrific. Can you describe the power of God from exp as terrific?

II. PRAYER, 1 Thess 3:10.

- A. Background. P at Athens alone. Tim back to ~~Class~~ and met at Corinth. Told of stedfastness.

B. Petition.

1. Continuous--night and day. Whenever thot of it. Really on his heart.
2. Content--see them and perfect lacks. Natural to have lacks bec no finished product till heaven. Need katartize, completion. Matt 4:21 of nets, Gal 6:1, Eph 4:12.

Did you ever pray like that for anybody? Not superspiritual. Not Lord make him see it my way. That's terrific praying. Can you describe your prayer life as really terrific?

III. ESTEEM? 1 Thess 5:13.

Some not obeying leaders. Unilateral relatn with God. Direct pipeline to Almighty. True, but often God's will is thru leaders of His church. Relationship of governed to governors:

- A. Appreciate, know. Have full view, i.e. realize they are doing more than what affects you.
- B. Esteem. Think highly, exceedingly so, in love. Acts 26:2; Phil 3:8 for same word.

Estimation in P's case above was 100%
Our estimation of leaders whould be 300%---
very highly.

Objection: They're no good. Not point. Esteem for work's sake. Their responsibility is to do right work; ours to esteem.

Applies to faithful pastor at home even tho doesn't know as much as you do.

Applies to faithful teacher who won't get sidetracked onto your hobby horse.

Applies to student leaders and school leaders. Can you describe your esteem for God's leaders as terrific.

God says be terrifically interested in His power, in prayer, in leaders. Are you?