

1 PETER 5:10-11

BALANCE OF POWER

¹⁰ *And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.* ¹¹ *To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

Look at this promise and see the divine balance of power. As Kingdom citizens we are privileged to participate in the work of the King as a young child is allowed to “help” his father with a project or her mother in the kitchen. Embedded in this glorious doxology is the simple phrase, *after you have suffered a little while* – everything else is God. The God of all grace does the calling to himself through his Son in order to restore us and empower us through his power. What a gift – what a love – what power – what a God!

The divine balance of power is not like that of our government, where there are checks and balances between the executive, legislative and judicial branches. Rather, God holds back his power so that we might be willing participants in his work of reconciliation. It is a balancing act that honors us as being made in God’s image; free to make choices and to live with the consequences.

Realizing that the initiative and the power are all God’s helps us in our daily walk to: 1) remember God is in charge; 2) rest secure in God’s provision; 3) remain faithful to God even during the challenges to our faith; 4) refocus and see God acting in the world; 5) reveal God’s love to our neighbor; and, 6) respond to God’s grace through grateful obedience.

With Peter, may our acclamation always be, *To [God] be the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

In the face of your triumphant grace, O Father, I can only worship. Make my desire Lord to do only those things that glorify you. When I suffer, help me to keep my focus off myself and on your amazing grace. Amen.