

Thorn - a pole or stake - impaling stake
- same verb as crucified - sharpened wooden staff

Buffet - strike w/ fist

v. 9 - Rest - to dwell in a tent - a habitation upon - The figure is that of X spreading upon him as a tent spread over him, during his temporary stay on earth.

a thorn from the flesh - not in the flesh -
- a body helplessly held down & mutilated

v. 9 - He hath said - ~~was~~ perfect tense = what he said remains said - said in past, force continues to the present.

Strength = dynamic, dynamic

The abject weakness of the human instrument serves to magnify & throw into relief the perfection of divine power. The greater the servant's weakness, the more conspicuous is the power of God's grace.

9b - In consequence, in prison, Paul now, rather than plead for release, welcomes weakness & glories in them most gladly as a means of the realization of X's power abiding on him.