

Crystallization-Study – Epistle to the Romans

The Grace of God from 1 Timothy through Hebrews

- The New Testament is a **history** of grace as God **moving and living** in and among the believers.
- If there were no grace of God, none of us could have faith and love in Christ.
 - The Lord's grace **superabounded** with faith and love in Christ to the apostle Paul for his dynamic and excellent salvation that he might be one of the greatest apostles.
 - An **apostle** is produced by the superabounding grace of the Lord.
 - Even to **love the apostles** in faith, we need the grace.
- Timothy had received the deposit of God's grace, mainly through Paul and his teaching.
 - 1 Tim 6:20 and 21 speak of the **grace** with Timothy that enabled him to **guard the deposit**.
 - By this grace he was enabled to **turn away** from **profane** and **vain babblings** and **oppositions** from what was falsely called **knowledge**.
- **Before the times of the ages**, God chose and predestinated us, so we received grace then.
- While the church was **degrading**, Timothy was empowered to **stand against** that degradation. He could do this by the **grace** which is in Christ Jesus.
- **First** we must have the Lord in our spirit. Then we have grace. **Grace is in our spirit where the Lord Jesus is**. The Lord and grace are one. **Grace is the Lord personified**.
- **Titus 2:11-13** speaks of the **grace** of God that has appeared to **bring salvation to all men**, training us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts**, we should **live soberly** and **righteously** and **godly** in the present age, awaiting the blessed hope, even the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
- God **justified us by His grace** that we might become **heirs** according to the hope of eternal life.
- Philemon had the grace of the Lord in his spirit, and this grace enabled him to **receive Onesimus, his escaped slave, as a brother**.
- By the grace of God, Christ **tasted death for everything**, that is, for every person.
- When the believers come to the throne of grace, they **receive grace as their timely help**.
- Day and night we have to **look carefully** that we may not fall away from the grace of God.
 - The Spirit of grace was **insulted** by the Hebrew believers, who **shrank back** to Judaism from God's New Testament salvation.

- To be kept from shrinking back to Judaism from God's New Testament economy, the Hebrew believers needed grace.
- If we want to have our heart confirmed, we must **trust** in grace. To be confirmed by grace is to **remain** in the new covenant to **enjoy** Christ as grace.

Gleanings in the Vast Field of God's Grace

- In the Old Testament, God's commandment to Israel concerning the reaping of the harvest was that Jehovah would bless the children of Israel if they **left the corners of their fields** and the **gleanings** for the poor, the sojourners, the orphans, and the widows.
 - Today **we all are Ruths**. We have become poor.
 - Thank God that we can **carry out the gleaning**.
- The grace that Mary found and with which God graced her was the **initiation of God's grace in the New Testament**.
- The Lord Jesus **grew** in grace. That means that He grew in God as grace.
 - God Himself is a **constitution**. Every item of what God is, is an attribute of God. When we grow in God, we grow in God's attributes.
- The young boy, Jesus, grew in three things: in **wisdom**, in **stature**, and in **grace**.
 - A **proper man** should grow in three things—first, in God; second, in wisdom; and third, in bodily stature.
- In order to be **vital**, we must be persons who are **full of God**, with the addition, advance, and growth of God.
- When everyone is full of God, it becomes a situation of grace that can be **seen by others**.
- When the apostles gave the believers testimony concerning the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, great grace was upon them.
 - When Stephen was full of grace and full of power, he did great wonders and signs among the people.
 - When Barnabas went to Antioch, he saw God's grace, which the believers there enjoyed.
 - The apostles Paul and Barnabas urged the new believers to continue in the grace.
 - The word of God is called the word of grace. This word of grace was ministered to the new believers by Paul and Barnabas.
 - When Paul and Barnabas were going out, the saints commended them to the grace of God.
 - There was a grace through which Peter and the Jewish believers were saved.

- All of these are grace as a **visitation** of God.
- Grace came through Jesus Christ, with Jesus' incarnation, but Peter says that there is a grace that is not yet but is to come. This grace is the **grace that saves our souls**.
 - 1 Pet 1:13 speaks of the grace on which the believers **set their hope perfectly**. This grace will come by the **revelation of the Lord Jesus** at His second coming.
- If we suffer **unjust persecution** as a believer or if we **endure suffering** while we are doing good, what we do is grace with God.
 - It is sweet and beautiful in the eyes of God because it is grace.
- We must learn to be humble and not proud. If we are **humble**, God will give us grace.
- In God's New Testament economy we receive **grace upon grace**.
 - Grace upon grace is the **fullness** of the riches of grace.
 - The fullness is the **overflowing**, the expression, of the riches.
- Revelation 1:4 speaks of the **grace** that is given to the local churches in the **dark age** of the church's degradation for the believers who seek to answer the Lord's calling to be His **overcomers**.
 - This indicates that grace reigns unto **eternal life**.
 - To **reign by grace** is to overcome.

(Crystallization-Study of the Epistle to the Romans – Messages 22-24)