Teaching on "Grace," answering questions through scriptures:

- How is "grace," defined and how should it be defined?
- Didn't God's grace come at salvation, we are saved by Grace, Ephesians 2:8, don't we have all grace?
- Isn't grace just a covering for our sin,? After all, we are under grace and not the law, Romans 6:14.
- What is the higher calling of God's grace, does it have one?

1). Grace defined

Grace is traditionally defined as God's "unmerited favor," towards man. (however, it's much more than that).

Grace is: God empowering us to walk in and carry out our ministry calling.

2). Does salvation bring all Grace?

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Ephesians 2:8.

We are saved by grace, however as the below scripture says, there is grace upon grace to be had as we walk out the fullness our Christian calling.

And of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace, John 1:14.

3). Isn't grace just a covering for our sins?

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace, Romans 6:14.

Scripture tells us not to receive the grace of God in vain, 2nd Corinthians 6:1, we are also warned not to abuse God's grace and turning it into lasciviousness, Jude 1:4. God's grace was not meant to be used as a justification for us to lead a lifestyle of sinful indulgence or moral depravity.

4). Grace, achieving the higher calling

We are to grow in grace that empowers us and give us the ability to bring forth the furtherance of the ministry.

But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen., 2nd Peter 3:18.

And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled, Acts 14:26.

Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power, Ephesians 3.7.

But by the grace of God I am what I am: and His grace which *was bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

1st Corinthians 15:10.

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Ephesians 4:7.

Who has saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, , 2^{nd} Timothy 1:9.

Summary:

Grace is not to be reduced to just meaning "unmerited favor," for by doing so we greatly minimize it's concept.

To be a recipient of God's grace, is to be willing and able to walk in, and carry an anointing, able to powerfully speak and do the works of the ministry.

Question: Do you see the importance of "grace," that it's necessary for all who minister the Gospel.

Grace as seen in the Old Testament:

Scripture uses the word "grace" as relating between man to men, God towards men, or man to God. I have left some of the scriptures below that speak of grace between God to man, or man to God.

- But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD, Genesis 6:8.
- (Lot) replied to two Angels, "thy servant has found grace in thy sight," Genesis 19:19.
- Gideon questioned the Lord as to if he had found grace in His sight, Judges 6:17.
- Ezra prophesied that God has given the Israelite's a little space of grace, Ezra 9:8.
- the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold, Psalm 84:11.
- For they (Instruction), shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, Proverbs 1:9.
- Wisdom and discretion: shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck, Psalm 3:22.
- Wisdom is the principal thing; She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace, Proverbs 4:9.
- Who art thou, O great mountain? with shouting, crying, Grace, grace unto it, Zechariah 4:7.
- I will pour on the house of David, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace, Zechariah 12:10.

Scriptures on grace from the New Testament:

Gospels:

The child (*Jesus*) grew, strong in spirit, with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him, Luke 2:40. If ye love or do for those who love and do for you, what grace have ye?, Luke 6:32 (YLT). (KJV - thank) And the Word became flesh, and we beheld His glory, full of grace and truth, John 1:14. Of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace, John 1:16. For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ, John 1:17.

Acts:

the apostles with great power witnessed the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and grace was upon them, Acts 4:33. Barnabas when he had seen the grace of God on the people at Antioch, and he exhorted them all, Acts 11:23. Many Jews and religious proselyte followed Paul and Barnabas: continue in the grace of God, Acts 13:43. Paul & Barnabas spoke boldly, giving testimony unto the Word of His grace, with signs and wonders, Acts 14:3. Thence sailed to Antioch, where they had been given the grace of God for the work that they fulfilled; Acts 14:26. We believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they, Acts 15:11. And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God, Acts 15:40. When he was to go the brethren wrote the others to receive him, who had believed through grace: Acts 18:27. So that I (Apostle Paul), might finish the ministry, to testify the gospel of the grace of God, Acts 20:24. The Word of His grace, able to build you up and give you an inheritance with them that are sanctified, Acts 20:32.

Romans:

Now to him that works is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt, Romans 4:4. (grace is a gift). Therefore *it is* of faith, that *it might be* by grace; to the end the promise; Romans 4:16. (to achieve promises)

If through the offense of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, Romans 5:15.

much more they which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness shall reign in life Romans 5:17.

law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: Romans 5:20.

sin has reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life, Romans 5:21. sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace, Romans 6:14. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid, Romans 6:1-2 & 6:15. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace, Romans 11:5. through the grace given me (Paul), to think soberly, as God has dealt us the measure of faith, Romans 12:3. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, Romans 12:6.

NT. Epistles:

I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; 1st Corinthians 1:4. According to the grace of God which is given unto me (Paul), as a wise master-builder, 1st Corinthians 3:10. by the grace of God I am what I am: I labored yet not I, but the grace of God within me, 1st Corinthians 15:10. For all things are for your sales, that abundant grace might many redound to the glory of God, 2nd Cor. 4:15. We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain, 2nd Cor. 6:1. as ye abound in, in faith, utterance, knowledge, diligence, and love that ye abound in grace also, 2nd Cor. 8:7. the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, He became poor, that ye might be rich, 2nd Cor. 8:9. God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye having sufficiency in all things, may abound: 2nd Cor. 9:8. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness, 2nd Cor. 12:9. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, Gal. 1:15 when they perceived the grace given to me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; Gal. 2:9. To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He has made us accepted in the beloved, Ephesians 1:6. we have redemption through His blood, forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace; Ephesians 1:7. when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ve are saved;) Ephesians 2:5. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Ephesians 2:8. If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: Ephesians 3:2. I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace given me by the effectual working of His power, Eph. 3.7. this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; Ephesians 3:8. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Ephesians 4:7. ... ye all (the Philippi church), are partakers of my grace (Apostle Paul), Philippians 1:7. since the day ye heard of it, (the Word of truth), and knew the grace of God in truth: Colossians 1:6. Let the Word dwell in you in wisdom; teaching, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord, Colossians 3:16. Let your speech be with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye know how ye ought to answer every man, Colossians 4:6. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus, 1st Timothy 1:14. Who has saved us, called us with an holy calling, according to His own purpose and grace, 2nd Timothy 1:9. Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2nd Timothy 2:1. For the grace of God that brings salvation hath appeared to all men, Titus 2:11. That being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life, Titus 3:11. Jesus, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man, Hebrews 2:9. come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace in time of need, Hebrews 4:16. who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? Hebrews 10:29.

Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; Hebrews 12:15.

let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: Hebrews 12:28.

For *it is* a good thing that the heart be established with grace; Hebrews 13:9.

the sun rises with a burning heat and the flower falleth, and the grace of it perishes: , James 1:11.

But he gives more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resists the proud, but gives grace unto the humble, James 4:6.

Of which salvation the prophets have prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you: 1st Peter 1:10.

gird up your mind, be sober and hope for the grace that is brought to you at the revelation of Christ; 1st Peter 1:13.

dwell with your wife, as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered, 1st Peter 3:7.

As all have received the gift, minister one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God, 1st Peter 4:10.

the God of all grace, who has called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, 1st Peter 5:10.

grow in grace, and *in* knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory, Amen, 2nd Peter 3:18.

certain men crept in unawares, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, Jude 1:4.



1st Corinthians 4:20

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