

Grace

I Corinthians 15:10: "But by God's grace I am what I am and his grace unto me was not found void..."

How marvelous is it, when we can say this aware of our life: "His grace unto we was not found void!" How true is the Word of God from Ephesians 2:8,

*"For by grace are you saved **through faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."*

By His grace we have been saved, and His grace will save us also in future. His grace has accompanied us throughout life (Psalm 5:12). His grace guided us, preserved us, comforted us, His grace punished us, crossed out our plans and ways, and His grace will crown us with the Capstone, with a loud shouting, rejoicing and weeping of joy: "Grace, grace unto Him. How wonderful, how lovely is He!" And this Capstone is the Holy Spirit - Christ (Zechariah 4:7), the love of God.

We grow by the grace of God, and we grow in the grace of God (II Peter 3:18) unto the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13). Therefore let us mobilize with all diligence and offer in our faith - for we as reborned, as seed of God, have received the Spirit of God (II Cor. 4:13). Let us give rise to virtue (ability, spiritual energy) and in virtue knowledge, and in knowledge temperance (moderation, self-control), and in temperance patience (holding out), and in patience godliness, and in godliness brotherly kindness, and in brotherly kindness charity, love towards everyone (II Peter 1:3-11). When a man or a woman possesses these seven virtues - this is the divine nature, the divine character -, then the Capstone, divine dynamics, the person of Christ Himself comes down. And He unites or marries with you (Rev. 10, the seventh seal), which is the refilling with the Holy Spirit. Oh, how we are longing for that, **to be sealed to the inside and to the outside**, to be crowned with Himself,

the Capstone, the love of God! But we are growing, we are growing unto the head, the Christ, by the grace of God (Ephesians 2:21-22; Col. 2:19; Eph. 3:15-16).

His grace searched us, His grace redeemed us, His grace delivered us, His grace caused our justification, sanctification (cleansing and preparation for service) and gave us the Holy Spirit. That's why we want to sing of the grace of the Lord (Psalm 89:1). We will never forget that our Lord Jesus Christ has redeemed us from the cruel pit of death (Psalm 40:2), from the power of sin and death (Romans 8:2). He will crown us with grace and pities, Hallelujah (Psalm 103:4). Yea, His grace reaches above the heavens and His truth as wide as the skies are going (Psalm 108:4).

But we cannot have grace, unless we have experienced His love. Before we can have His grace, we must receive love. Before you can do a favour to somebody, you have to love him. Love and grace are twins. When divine love is expressed and It has taken Its place, then sovereign grace will work and take over everything. God brought grace in our life by His love to us in giving us redemption, deliverance, eternal life... Not we have seeked Him, but He has searched us (Romans 3:10-11; Romans 10:20). We did not love Him first, He first loved us (Romans 5:6-8). Everything what God has done for us, is grace. Grace is an undeserved and not repayable favour. Grace is what we have received from Him and what we could also give others. And when love and grace always work together, how can we doubt of His love? How much did He love us, how much did He care for us! All of His acts of grace are an expression of His love! When we by the Holy Spirit look back, and think about all the goodness He has done for us, we all should shout and jubilate: "JESUS has love me so much, He loves me so", and we should praise and worship Him (Psalm 103:1-3).

His love is and brings grace! How will you then wonder, if there is still grace for you? His redeemed ones are not under the law, but under grace (Romans 6:14). **They live by the grace of God, the Spirit of God** - yea they are led by the Spirit of God (the grace of God) to their home (Galatians 5:16-18). The Lord has come into your heart by the love of God (Romans 5:5), and His hand will never leave you (John 10:27-29). Grace will also in future establish your heart (Hebrews 13:9). Yea, by His grace, which is in Christ Jesus, we were enriched in Him in everything (I Cor. 1:4-9).

The law doesn't know any grace and it condemns us, shows us that we are sinful, dirty, guilty and subject to death. But Jesus Christ came (John 1:1-3,14-17) - grace came - and took us out of the prison of fear of death and the slavery of sin (Hebrew 2:14-16). His law demanded justice, and a law without punishment is no law (Romans 5:13; Romans 7:7-25). The just demand of the law is now fulfilled by "Christ in us" (Romans 8:1-4).

We read in Romans 5:20-21,

"Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

By the abounding of grace and the gift of righteousness - Christ = the Holy Ghost - we may already now in life reign over the world, sin, the flesh and the devils (Rev. 1:5-6).

The God of all grace, however (I Peter 5:10), from His fullness we all received grace upon grace, He will give us furthermore love and grace by the revelation of Jesus Christ. Therefore we want to rely also in the future fully upon His grace which is being brought to us by the unveiling of Jesus Christ (I Peter 1:13).

Therefore, every revelation of Himself in our life, every illumination, leading, keeping, healing, deliverance, uplifting, quickening is a proof of His love to us. These are all acts of grace of the Lord towards us (Lamentations 3:22-23). He has revealed us the mysteries of the seven thunders of Revelation 10, has opened the seven seals (Daniel 12:4,9-10), and through the Evening-Light-Message we are indeed brought back to the faith of the original pentecostal fathers (Malachi 4:5-6). What a grace!

Help me to glorify and to praise His grace! All things in our life, also our placing into our personal inheritance, into the adoption, is for the praise of the glory of His grace (Eph. 1:6). Grace is also that what God will do for us in the future. We are saved, freely justified by His grace, by the condescension of God, and not by own works (Romans 3:21-24). Grace is what the plan of redemption contains, what He has done for you. Your deeds are showing the estimation of that, what God has done you personally and what He means to us.

Grace is that we may serve Him (I Peter 4:10-11; Eph. 3:7; Hebr. 12:28; Romans 12:6-8). Yea truly, love brings forth love, and grace brings forth grace.

The apostle Paul said in I Corinthians 13:1-3,

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burnt, and have not charity (love, which is grace, does not come into my heart), it profiteth me nothing."

God has to do this. We can try everything, we can try to do everything possible out of ourselves, and still be lost. It is the grace of God which saves us, which brings us through this rough and hard time.

Let's not forget: *"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble"* (I Peter 5:5 and James 4:6). Therefore let us humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, which is His revealed Word, and grace upon grace will be given to us. Grace will finally exalt us in the right time (I Peter 5:6-7).

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