

Review

1. Grace IS the Gospel

▪ Act 20:24-25, 27-28, 32

*"But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the **gospel of the grace of God**.²⁵ "And now, behold, I know that all of you, among whom I went about **preaching the kingdom**, will no longer see my face.²⁷ "For I did not shrink from declaring to you **the whole purpose of God**.²⁸ "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.³² "And **now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.***

2. The law is NOT for the righteous (and we are righteous).

▪ Even though our primary message should be good news (the ministry of reconciliation), if we encounter someone who doesn't think that they have sinned and that they don't need God, it is perfectly appropriate to use the law.

1 Timothy 1:8-10

*But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully,⁹ realizing the fact that **law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers¹⁰ and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching.***



Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue. 2 Peter 1:2-3

I We ARE ALREADY blessed with all we need.

A With every spiritual blessing

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us (G: invoked a blessing, to prosper) with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

B With all things pertaining to life and godliness

2 Peter 1:2-3

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³ seeing that His divine power has granted (freely given) to us **everything** pertaining to **life and godliness**, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

II It is our privilege to discover all that God has blessed us with by His grace.

A Through the Word

B By the Spirit

1 Corinthians 2:12

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

C We are strengthened/established by grace.

Hebrews 13:9

Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be **established by grace**, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

Hebrews 5:13

For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.

I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, ⁵ hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, ⁶ that the sharing of your faith may become effective (energized¹) by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. Philemon 1:4-6

MORE BLESSINGS OF HIS LOVE AND GRACE²

(cont. from Lessons 2-3)

III By grace we have the ability to believe in Him and to love each other.

Jeremiah 31:33

"But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, "declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it."

1 John 3:23

And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

¹ (energized) added to text to show definition in the Greek.

² This list is by no means exhaustive.

A TO BELIEVE

Acts 18:27

And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had **believed through grace.**

B TO LOVE

1 Thessalonians 4:9

Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are **taught by God** to love one another.

IV We have life.

John 6:47

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has **everlasting life.**

John 4:14

But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into **everlasting life.**"

John 10:10

I have come that they may have **life**, and that they may have it **more abundantly.**

V By his grace we are new creations (implies originality).

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

A WE ARE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

2 Corinthians 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

B WE ARE HOLY (SANCTIFIED) AND BLAMELESS

Colossians 1:21b-22

Yet now He has reconciled²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight

1 Corinthians 6:11

And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you **were sanctified**, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Hebrews 10:10

By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10:14

For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

C WE ARE SAVED/CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS NOT BY THEM

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

D WE ARE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE**2 Peter 1:2**

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³ seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. ⁴ For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

VI The grace of God teaches us to live righteously.**Titus 2:11-12**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.

Romans 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:14

For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died.

VII The grace of God has perfected us.**A Hebrews 10:14**

*For by one offering He has **perfected forever** those who are being sanctified.*

“**Perfected**”— teleioo (tel-i-o'-o): to complete, that is, (literally) accomplish, or (figuratively) consummate (in character): - consecrate, finish, fulfill, (make) perfect

B Philippians 1:6

*For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you **will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.***

“**Perfect**”— epiteleō (ep-ee-tel-eh'-o) : to fulfill further (or completely), that is, execute; - accomplish, do, finish

In other words, we are perfected now,
and God will see to it that this perfection is fulfilled completely.

VIII We know His voice.**A We are His sheep****John 10:26-27**

"But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep. ²⁷ "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me

B We are led by the Holy Spirit**Galatians 5:18**

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

C We can go directly to Him for the knowledge and wisdom we need.

James 1:5

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

D The Holy Spirit teaches us.

1 John 2:27

But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

E We have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:16

For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ.

F God has revealed what was previously hidden to us by His Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

But as it is written:

*“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

¹⁰ **But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.** *For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*

G We can come boldly before Him.

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

IX SATISFACTION: NO DESPERATION, NO HUNGER, NO THIRST

A Paul did face desperate situations and had feelings of desperation at times in his ministry, but he never despaired. “Desperate” means “without hope”. Though we might experience the emotion, in reality, we are NEVER without hope in Jesus. We are NEVER DESPERATE, and certainly we are never “desperate for HIM”. (The word is only used twice in the New Testament. Hope is used 54 times.)

1 The two scriptures using the word despair (same book).

2 Corinthians 1:8

For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life.

2 Corinthians 4:8

We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair.

2 A few of the many scriptures on hope

Ephesians 2:12

*That at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, **having no hope and without God** in the world.*

Romans 5:2

*Through whom also we have access by faith into this **grace** in which we stand, and **rejoice in hope of the glory of God.***

Colossians 1:27

*To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the **hope of glory***

1 Timothy 1:1

*Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, **our hope.***

Romans 15:4

*For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we **through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.***

Romans 15:13

*Now may the **God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Hebrews 6:19

*This **hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil.***

Hebrews 10:23

*Let us hold fast the **confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.***

- B Jesus said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,” but he also said, “for they shall be filled”. We are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, and He now abides in us. WE HAVE BEEN FILLED AND WE ARE PERMANENTLY RIGHTEOUS.**

2 Corinthians 5:21

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- C The verse on hungering and thirsting for righteousness has been turned around in our Christian culture so that now we say we are to hunger and thirst FOR GOD. In fact, many Christian consider it a virtue to “cultivate a daily hunger and thirst for God”. Scripture does not back up this philosophy. There is NO REASON for a Christian to be hungering and thirsting for God. *Feeling* hungry and thirsty can be an indication that we are trying to live this Spirit-led life in our flesh.**

John 4:13-14

*Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will **NEVER** thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a **fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.***

John 6:35

*And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall **NEVER** hunger, and he who believes in Me shall **NEVER** thirst.*

D “Need” is different. We all have needs and it is perfectly acceptable to bring these to the Lord (but not out of hopelessness, rather in faith).

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

X WE ARE FREE!

It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1

A FREE FROM FEAR

1 Fear of God

2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Romans 8:15

For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again.

Matthew 4:10 *10Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"*

Deuteronomy 6:13

"You shall fear only the LORD your God; and you shall worship Him and swear by His name.

Hebrews 12:18-24 Mt.Sinai vs. Mt. Zion

For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. ²⁰ (For they could not endure what was commanded:

"And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." ²¹ And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.")

²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

2 Fear of Man

Hebrews 13:6

So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

1 John 4:4

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

3 Fear of Death**Hebrews 2:14-15**

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Romans 14:8

For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

1 Corinthians 15:54-56

So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." ⁵⁵ "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

B FREED FROM SIN**Romans 6:14**

For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

C FREE FROM THE FLESH**Romans 8:9**

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.

D FREE FROM THE LAW AND ITS CURSE**Romans 6:14**

You are not under law but under grace.

Romans 7:6

But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.)

Galatians 2:21

I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.

Galatians 5:18

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 3:13

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree").

E FREE FROM SICKNESS**1 Peter 2:24**

Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

XI THE GRACE THAT IS TO COME WHEN HE RETURNS

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

AMAZING, EVEN AFTER ALL HE'S DONE BY GRACE, THERE WILL BE MORE GRACE AT HIS RETURN