

Words! **Part 3: "Grace!"**

Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world... Mt 25.43 For, by Jesus, you are adopted, according to the good pleasure of God's will... To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He made us accepted in the beloved. Eph 1.5,6

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in carvings of silver. **Proverbs 25.11**

The Word we know, the words we understand, the words we speak... Have everything to do with the health and life of God we experience and share!

Blessed is the one who does not walk *in the counsels of the ungodly (mentality), nor stands in the way of the sinner (conduct), nor sits in the seat of the scornful (fellowship)* but delights in the law of the Lord *and in His law he meditates day and night!* He is like a tree planted by a river of living water, that bears fruit in season, whose leaf does not wither and whatever he does, prospers! **Psalm 1.1-3**

Example of "counsel of the ungodly!" (neo-theo's, non-godly interpreters)

Grace (charis: which means graciousness, favor, benefit, gift) has come to mean "excuse," "pass," from lawful "behavior..." "Not under the law, under grace!" We are under the law if we will not live up to grace! Grace is living to the higher standard of God's graciousness, with His benefits, in His favor and with His gifts! And to disdain them with sinfulness is a crime against God/kingdom!

Pastor tells congregation okay to use wine, in moderation... grace...(never associated)

1st, who determines "moderation:" the average, reasonable, limits? Who knows what's in a person's head? Can we trust a person to judge their own head when alcohol alters judgment? Congregation member throws a party and has absolutely no control over moderation! People say/do things, hurt/offend... die

Offender points to host who points to pastor who points to...? Grace?

Grace is not code for "elite exemption," "special treatment," "self indulgence" or "sin with impunity!"

Grace made us free from keeping the scriptural, civil and moral law *for salvation...*

But there is no "grace in Christ" giving us license to sin!

Grace says: "it is good to neither eat flesh nor drink wine nor do anything whereby someone can stumble, is offended or made weak... make sure your life of faith is connected to God... happy is the one who does not condemn himself by the things he allows himself to do... whatever is not done of faith is sin." **Romans 14.20-23**

Grace says: "take heed so that by no means does this freedom of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak... if someone sees you and is emboldened by your actions and by that he perishes (for whom Christ died to save) you sin against Christ – so, if your actions will offend your brother of weak conscience it's better to not do them as long as the world stands!" **1Cor 8.9-13**

Grace is the platform we stand on that makes us able to sacrifice for the sake of others...

Grace enables us to love others more than our "selves" without diminishing ourselves!

Grace is the favor, benefits and gifts of God!

161x in the Old and New Testaments! OT: chen: chanan: graciousness, favor, beauty... "finding grace in thy sight!" "gifts (wisdom, word) for your neck!" NT: charis: graciousness (of God), favor, benefits, gifts... "grace of God given you by Jesus Christ!" "by His grace I am what I am."

Grace is the power twin of mercy!

Mercy: *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead... 1Peter1.3 "For when we were w/o strength, Christ came and died for the ungodly... God commending His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us... reconciling us to God!" Romans 5.6-10*

Grace: *"all have sinned and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by His grace, thru the redemption that is in Jesus Christ, whom God foreordained to be our substitute thru faith in His blood..." Rom 3.23-25 "But God, who is rich in mercy, loving us with great love, even when we were dead in our sins quickened us together, raised and seated us with Christ, that in the time to come He might show us the exceeding richness of His grace in His kindness toward us in Jesus... For by grace you are saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God..." Ephesians 2.4-8*

The foundation stones of mercy and grace make us UNSHAKABLE! (In fact, they tie us off to something higher so that if our world falls away we will still be okay!)

Grace is God's guarantee that you can become who He says, do what He says, because you have the resources of His favor, benefits and gifts!

SWAIGTDWWIKN? SHOWMORERESPONSE! RESPONSE-ABILITY!

"I have a response-ability to God's call for me to be transformed!" "Being justified by faith we *have peace* with God thru Jesus Christ by whom we also have access by faith *into the grace by which we stand* and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God, and not only that but now we *glory in tribulations knowing it works patience in us and patience works experience and experience works hope...*" (That's transformation!) **Romans 5.1-4**

"I have a response-ability by His grace for bad circumstances, events and troubling people!" Because of my beginnings in Christ, and the surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. 3x I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." **2Cor12.7-9** Now, I take pleasure in my distresses because when I am weak He is strong in me! **v10**

"I have a right-response-ability to God's blessings, life's victories and man's accolades without faltering in my faith!" "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." **Romans 12.3**